

scouts south africa ceremonies



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introduction to ceremonies

Ceremonies play an important role in our organisation and in our training programmes. Like everything else in Scouting, the ceremonies are progressive from the Investiture of a Meerkat to their Gold Star, Leaping Wolf, First Class, Springbok, BP Award and the presentation of a Woodbadge or an Award to Scouters.

The real purpose behind each ceremony is to create a lasting and worthwhile memory for those taking part, especially for the individual who is at the centre of the ceremony. Therefore, **B-P** emphasised that ceremonies must be **SHORT**, **SIMPLE** and **SINCERE**, and for most of them they should have a pattern to follow.

Over the years some Groups elaborated certain parts of our ceremonies which usually detracted from the main point. SCOUTS South Africa (SSA) strives for unity in our ceremonies, since our aim is to abide by the Founder's own plans. It is hoped that all Scouters will follow these ceremonies, thus keeping to the Founder's principles and helping to develop a sense of unity within the Movement.

This book has been compiled with these points in mind. Many of the words and patterns of the ceremonies have been taken directly from B-P's own writings or revised to reflect the current situation within the South African Scout Movement.

The descriptions of the ceremonies in this book are the standard versions to be used in SSA. They have been approved by the SSA Management Committee.

On the Conduct of Ceremonies

Ceremonies should be conducted from memory and not from this book. It is recognised that the Scouter and the individual youth taking part are sometimes under emotional strain and may make a mistake during a ceremony. This is not vitally important, provided that the Meerkat/Cub/Scout/Rover concerned does not realise that anything has gone wrong, for nothing must mar their memory of the occasion.



As most of our major ceremonies mark progress and give recognition to the participants, their importance is obvious. The Founder himself pointed out that Investitures in all Units are private ceremonies to the Unit. However, it must not be thought that ceremonies are something secret in Scouting; all we do we do openly. A Meerkat, Cub, Scout and Rover are invested in front of their Unit members and, with their agreement, their parents. When youth receive an important award, such as Leaping Wolf or Springbok Scout, it is usually in the presence of many people.

It is important that when the Promise is made, not only does the Scout recognise that it governs their conduct, but that they realise others are aware of their Promise too.

Despite the “openness” of our ceremonies, it is undesirable that any Investiture should be carried out as a public function. If it is desired to demonstrate such a ceremony, the demonstration should be carried out by persons already invested and who are selected because they all carry through the performance with accuracy.

We are often asked whether parents should be present, particularly at Investitures as well as at important presentations. It is desirable that they be present, but they certainly should not be present without the Scout's agreement.

The preparation for ceremonies is most important. It should involve some rehearsal with the Scout concerned and the planning of the programme. This ensures that the atmosphere of the meeting is right.

It is equally important that all Assistants should be fully briefed in the procedure for any ceremony and reminded, if necessary, that all Den and Pack Scouters use the Meerkat or Cub Salute when with the Den or Pack.

The Scout Group Leader

The Scout Group Leader (SGL) is the senior Scouter in the whole Group and should be invited to all ceremonies, as well as allocated a role. The SGL is expected to attend every Investiture of a Meerkat, Cub or Scout and will then issue the Group Scarf to each new Member of the Group.



It is important that all ceremonies be discussed and planned at Group Scouters' Council meetings so that all Units of the Group and all Scouters know what is going on and when. As a matter of courtesy, the District Commissioner (DC) should be advised well in advance by the SGL of all ceremonies planned within the Group and invited to attend. If the DC does attend they should, if possible, have a role such as presenting the District badge and/or Region badge to a new member.



meerkat ceremonies

Opening Ceremony

At the Scouter's call of "*Meerkats Stand Tall*" the Meerkats stand around the totem in a circle in their burrows with their hands held up like Meerkat paws.

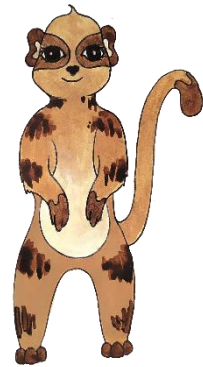
Together they sing the **Meerkat song**:

"We are the Meerkats, we Stand Tall.

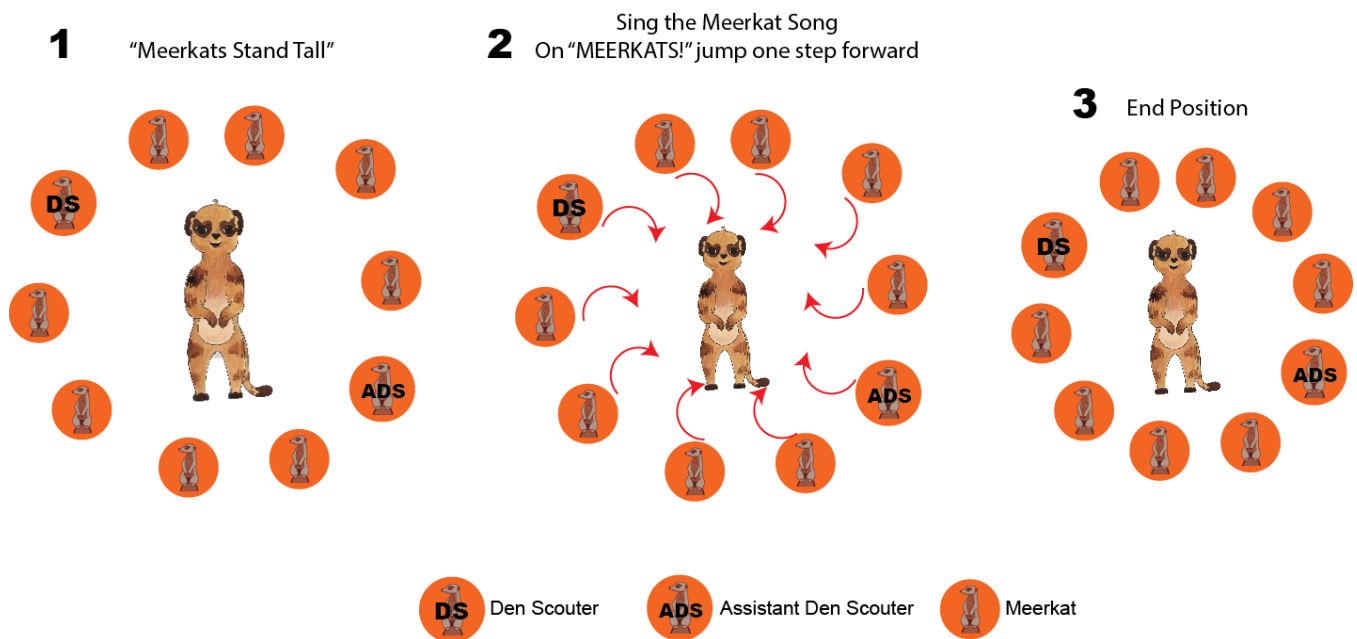
It really doesn't matter if we are still small.

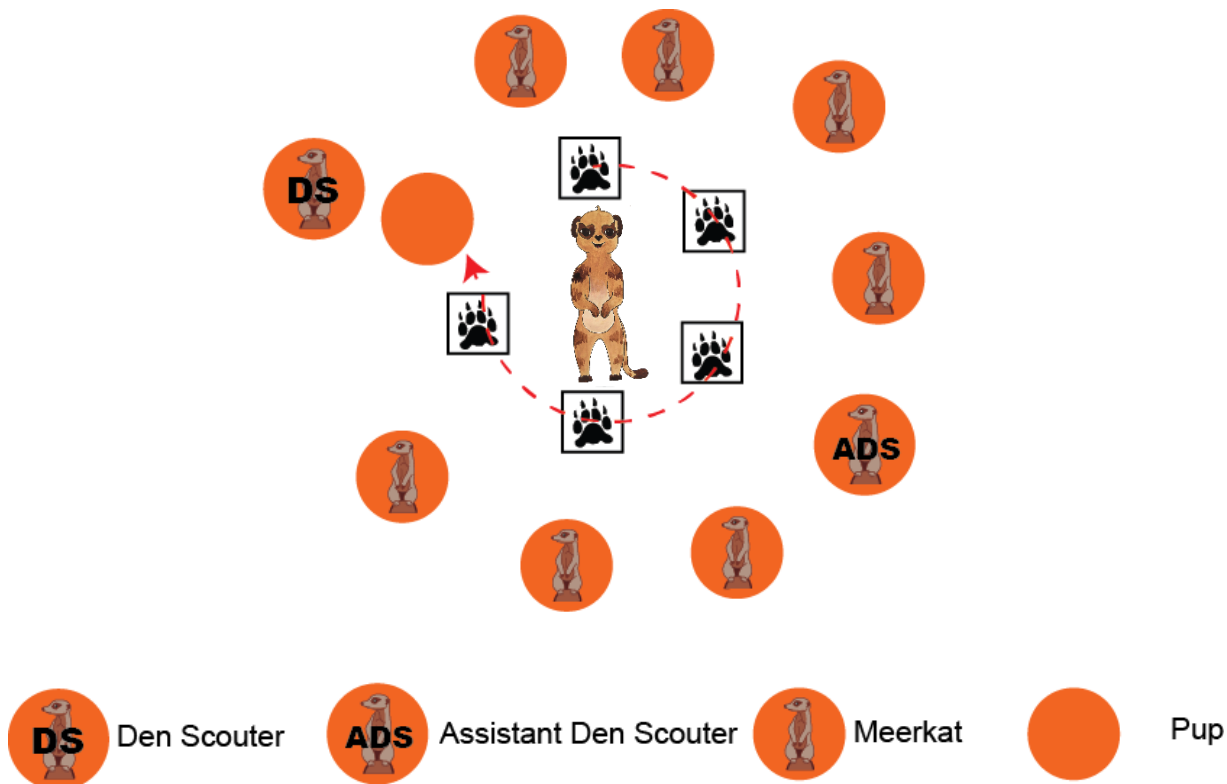
We try our best, just like the rest.

Because we are the MEERKATS."



On the word "Meerkats" they jump one step forward towards the totem.





The Meerkat Investiture Ceremony

- The totem is placed in the centre of the circle of Meerkats. Five footprints are placed around the totem. They may contain the wording: "Personal Info", "Law", "Promise", "Motto", "Uniform".
- The Den Scouter (DS) will have the Meerkat shirt and hat ready for the ceremony, and the Welcome Certificate "You are now a Meerkat" - if given.
- Prior to the investiture ceremony, the Pup confirms that they know their Membership Badge requirements, by providing the DS with their details - "Full Name", "Mom's and/or Dad's full names", "Your Birthday", "Your Address" and "Mom's or Dad's phone number", so they can be entered into the Den register.
- The Pup steps on each paw in turn, confirms that they know all their personal info, and affirms Promise, Law, Motto.
- When the Pup has filled the requirements, on their last footprint, they are handed their Meerkat hat and Meerkat shirt, if worn, to put on (over their existing shirt). The Pup is then presented with their World Membership badge, SCOUTS South Africa ribbon, Annual badge and Burrow badge by the Den Scouter. The Assistant Den Scouter (ADS) may present the Annual and Burrow badges. The Group Scarf and Group nametape are then presented by the SGL if the Den is part of an existing Group, or by the DS if it is a stand-alone Den or a Den at an ECD centre.



- The DS says *"Now you are a real Meerkat, what will you do?"* to which the new Meerkat says *"I will love my God, be kind and Stand Tall"*.
The Meerkat can then be handed the Welcome Certificate - if given.

The Presentation of Advancement and Interest Badges

- The Meerkats are formed up in their Burrows.
- The Meerkats are called up individually by the DS to receive their badges.
- The Meerkat's left paw touches the Scouter's left paw and the Scouter then pins the badge on the hat.
- After the badge is awarded all the other Meerkats say *"koer"*.
- Once the badge is awarded the Meerkat returns to their Burrow.

The Meerkat "handshake",

Meerkats do not shake hands in the traditional sense, they touch left paws against each other. They do this as a sign of greeting and when being presented with a badge by the DS.

The Burrowing Up Ceremony from Den to Pack



All Meerkats going up to the Cub Pack must be given a proper Burrowing Up Ceremony. Six weeks before their seventh birthday, the Meerkat can start working on the Burrowing Up badge. As soon as possible, after their seventh birthday, they should go up to Cubs.

The Meerkat may gain the Burrowing Up badge with the Pack Scouter (PS), before going up to the Pack. This enables them to be invested as a Cub immediately after their Burrowing Up Ceremony. The Burrowing Up badge is presented to the Meerkat by the PS.

If the Meerkat does not complete the Burrowing Up badge before going up to Cubs, they will have to complete the Cub Membership badge before they can be invested as a Cub.

The Ceremony

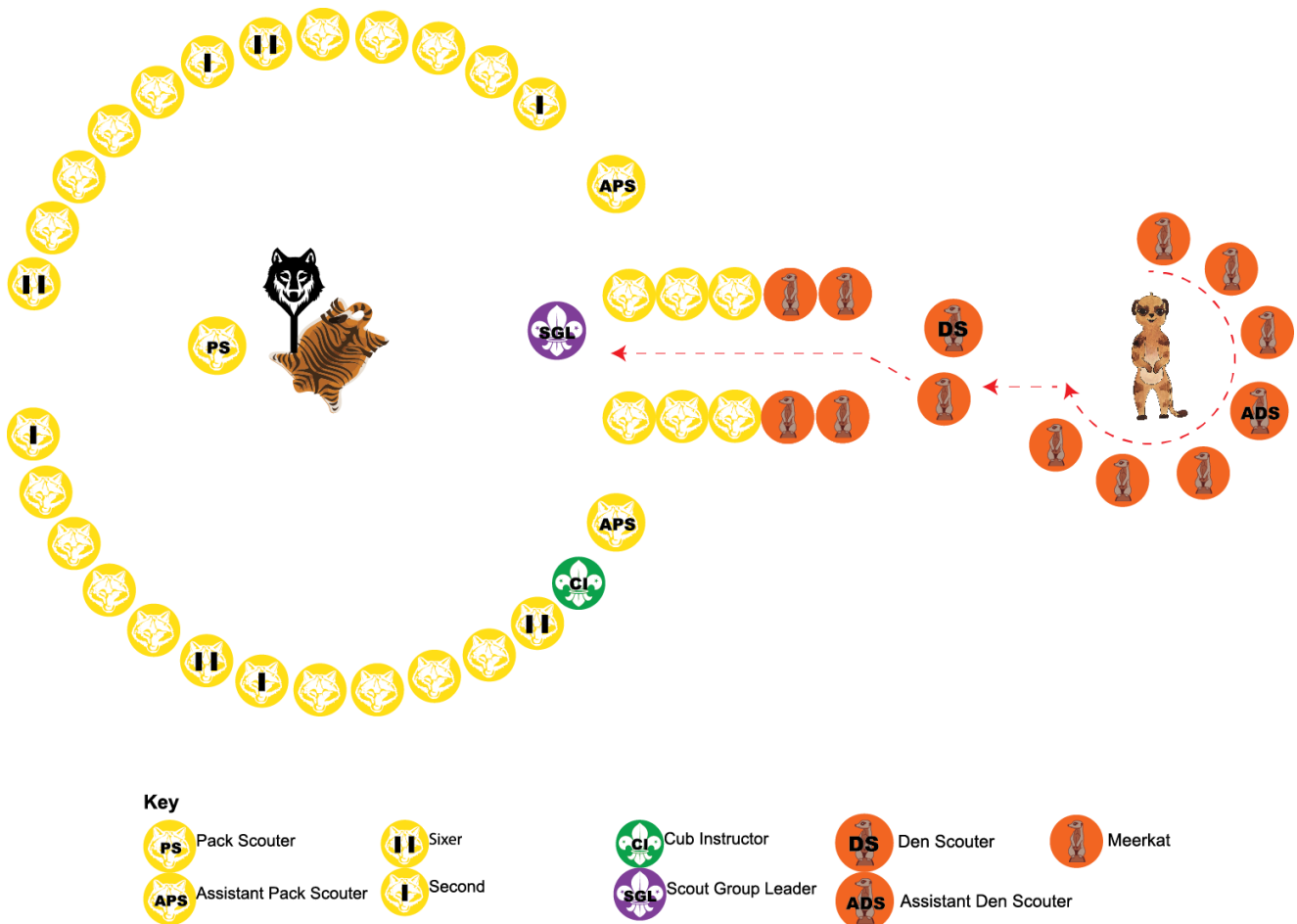
Proper preparation for the actual ceremony at the Group Scouters' Council is key. The Meerkats who are Burrowing Up arrive for the ceremony in their Cub uniform, wearing their Den Scarf.



- The Den is formed up around the totem. The Pack is formed in a Parade Circle a short distance away.
- The DS gives a brief explanation of the significance of the occasion.
- The Meerkat(s) goes around the circle and says goodbye to their friends and Scouters with the Meerkat handshake.
- The Den members will then form a guard of honour in two lines, joining hands to form a tunnel.
- The PS then says "*OPEN THE CIRCLE*", whereupon the Cubs nearest the Den will join the guard of honour line joining hands to extend the tunnel.
- The DS leads the Meerkat(s) through the tunnel (DS walks alongside the tunnel as they will not fit inside the tunnel) to meet the SGL, who is standing at the end of the guard of honour. The DS salutes the SGL and gives a brief summary of the Meerkat(s)'s career, wishes the Meerkat(s) good luck, and then hands them over. The SGL welcomes the Meerkat(s) with a few suitable words of encouragement.
- The SGL then presents the Meerkat(s) to the PS, who welcomes them to the Pack. In turn, the PS then hands the Meerkat(s) over to the Sixer of the Six(es) the Meerkat(s) will join.
- Once the Meerkat(s) has walked through the tunnel, the tunnel disperses and the Pack and the Den reform their respective circles.
- The Meerkats would then proceed to their Closing Ceremony. If it is not the end of their meeting they may stand quietly in the hall to watch the Investiture or leave the hall for another activity.
- After the Meerkat(s) has been invested as a member(s) of the Pack at the Cub Investiture Ceremony, it may be a good opportunity for joint activities of the Den and Pack. This could entail a few carefully chosen games for a short time until the Meerkats go home and the Pack Meeting properly starts. This strengthens the bond between the Den and the Pack.

The approach to the whole ceremony is one of pride and happiness that another Meerkat is joining the Pack. No suggestion of sadness at losing them from the Den must be allowed to creep in.





Totems

The totem provides a focal point round which the Meerkats gather. It can be as simple as a Meerkat shape cut out of a cardboard box, a picture drawn on a box, an image downloaded from the internet or a stone Meerkat from a garden centre. The totem represents the "Den" of the Meerkats.

Closing Ceremony

The Closing Ceremony is the same as the Opening Ceremony followed by the Meerkat prayer. All Meerkats and Scouters speak together and say:

"Help us to be kind. Help us to be good.

Help us to STAND TALL, and do the things we should."

The DS will then say *"What will you try to do until we meet again?"*

To which the Meerkats reply *"I will love my God, be kind and Stand Tall"*.

The DS then calls *"Meerkats, dismissed"*.



Den Flags

It is hoped that each Den will have a Den Flag as described in the Brand Manual, bearing the Den name as part of its traditional background.



cub ceremonies

Break

When the Pack is in a formation during a meeting and they need to fall out and undertake an activity as individuals, the following procedure shall be followed:

- The Pack must be at the Alert.
Pack Scouter (PS or Akela) says "*PACK*" (warning to attract attention), and then gives the order "*PACK* (pause), *PACK BREAK*".
- All Cubs turn to the right, pause, and then break away outwards. Note that NO Salute is given. Akela and the other Pack Scouters stand at the Alert until the Pack has broken away then, on the instruction of Akela, break, turn smartly to the right, and then fall out.

Opening and Closing Ceremonies



The order of the various items at the start or close of the Pack Meeting is:

1. Grand Howl
2. Flag Ceremony
3. Prayers (optional at the Opening Ceremony).

Inspection, subscriptions, etc. will follow the Opening Ceremony and "Notices" will precede the Closing Ceremony.

It is advisable to check uniforms briefly just before the final Grand Howl to ensure that the Cubs are reasonably smart and tidy when in public view on their return home after the meeting.

Pack Call

The call "*PACK*" means that all Cubs immediately stop what they are doing and silently await further instructions.

These calls or commands are not reserved for Akela's sole use. They may also be used by any Scouter.

The call "*PACK-PACK-PACK*" is used to bring the Cubs into the Parade Circle formation for any purpose and is not limited to the Grand Howl.



The Grand Howl

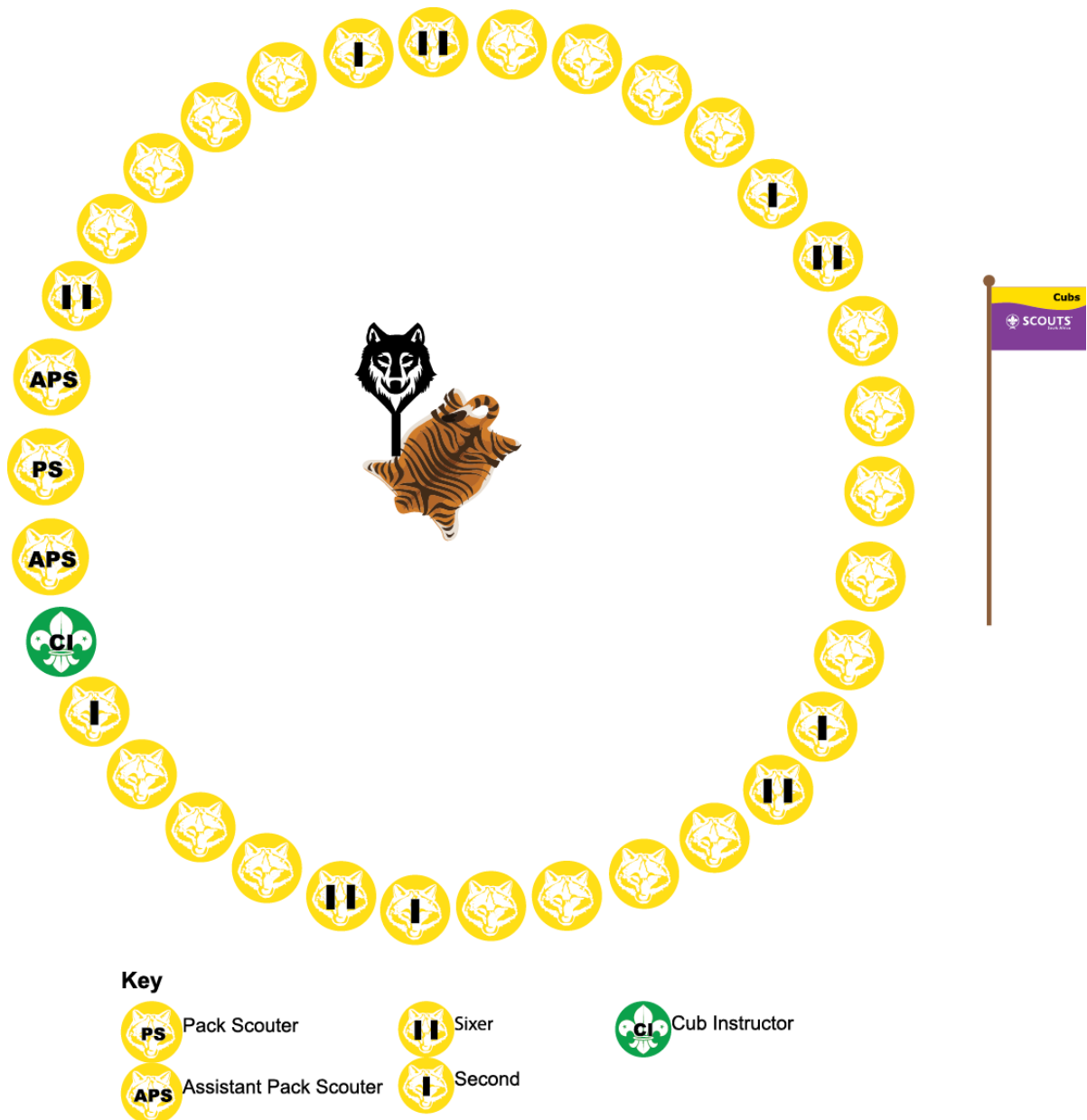
The Grand Howl is always done in a Parade Circle. It is a greeting to Akela, to a visitor, or to a new Cub after Investiture. It is also used at the beginning and end of Pack Meetings. It is also a reminder to all Cubs of their Promise.

The Council Rock will be in position and the Totem Pole (if one is owned by the Pack) is placed in its stand. It should be off-centre, but near the Rock, with the face of the Wolf facing the Sixer of the Duty Six. The Pack Flag is flown outside the circle.

- Akela takes up position next to the Council Rock and calls "*PACK*" for silence -if necessary.
- The call "*PACK-PACK-PACK*" is given. Cubs rush in to form a Parade Circle around Akela, the Council Rock and the Totem Pole. Cubs come to the "Alert".
- New Chums (Recruits not yet invested) fall in beside their own Sixer and step back outside the perimeter of the circle. They remain standing at the "Alert" throughout the Grand Howl.

NOTE: Under NO circumstances should New Chums leave the room or meeting place for ANY of the Cub Ceremonies.





- Other Pack Scouters (including the Cub Instructors) take up their positions as part of the circumference of the Parade Circle as soon as it's formed. They remain standing at the "Alert" until the end of the ceremony and Salute at the same time as the Cubs.
- Akela turns to face the Cub who will lead the Grand Howl and steps slowly onto the Council Rock. As the second foot is put down, the Cubs go down to the squat position and immediately commence the Howl without any further signal.



The downward movement of the Cubs should be swift and straightforward, and should not involve any exaggerated movement of the arms, etc. The squat position means that the Cubs are on their toes with their knees bent and wide apart. Their hands are together, their index fingers are touching, and all fingers point to and just touch the ground. Their shoulders are pushed back, and their heads are thrown back too.

- The Cubs howl in unison slowly but loudly:
"AH-KAY-LA! W-E-E-L-I D-O-O-O-O- O-O-UR BEST!"

On the word "Best" (which should be short and sharp), the Pack springs up with hands at sides to the "Alert". This should be a swift and definite spring upwards from the squat position. The Cub leading the Howl calls to the Pack (at the top of their voice) *"Cubs, Do Your Best!"*

They and the other Cubs then bring their right hands up to the Cub Salute. At the same time Akela and the other Pack Scouters Salute whilst the Pack yells *"We Will Do Our Best!"*

The Scouter taking the Howl acknowledges the greeting at its conclusion by saying *"Thank you Pack"* or *"Good Hunting"* or something along these lines.

Akela will normally take the Grand Howl, but it is a good policy to ensure that Assistant Pack Scouters (APS) are given sufficient practice in the Howl. This may be done by allowing an Assistant to take the first Howl, whilst Akela then takes the last one at each meeting.

Normally only the person to whom the Howl is being given will stand in the centre of the Circle. However, if the person is new to Cubs, such as a visiting Mayor, it may well be kinder if Akela stands beside the person concerned to control the Howl and to lend support.

Notices precede the closing Grand Howl. The Cubs are given the order *"STAND AT EASE"*.



Flag Break

The procedure is simple but dignified.

- The prepared flag is positioned at the top of the flagpole ready for breaking. The loose ends of the halyard are wound around the cleat, with the length to be pulled (ready for breaking) slightly looser than the other.
- The Pack is ordered to the "Alert" and ordered to face the flag.
- On the command "*DUTY SIXER*" (or other Cub) the Cub concerned marches smartly to the flagpole, halts, and immediately pulls the loose section of the halyard to break the flag.
- After they break the flag, the Duty Sixer (or other Cub) takes one step back, and Akela orders the Parade "*PACK (pause), PACK SALUTE*"
- ALL drop their hands back to the "Alert" position.
- The Duty Sixer (or other Cub) then performs an about-turn and smartly marches back to their place.

NOTE: The loose part of the halyard is tied around the cleat AFTER the Duty Sixer (or other Cub) has returned to their position, i.e. the Sixer and Pack should not be expected to wait while the halyard is secured.

Flag Down

Flag down follows the Grand Howl Ceremony.

The halyard should be nearly all unwound from the cleat, ready for the lowering, before the ceremony starts.

- The Pack is ordered to the "Alert".
On the command: "*DUTY SIXER*" (or other Cub) the Cub concerned marches smartly to the flagpole; halts one pace from it; unwinds the remaining halyard from the cleat; and lowers the flag.
After the flag has been lowered, the Cub simply makes two turns of the halyard around the cleat and tucks the flag between the flagpole and halyard. The flag must NOT be removed from the halyard. This should be done after the ceremony. The flag must not be allowed to touch the ground.
- The Duty Sixer (or other Cub) then takes one step back, performs an about-turn, and marches back to their place. The Pack remains at the "Alert" until ordered to "*STAND AT EASE*".

NOTE: There is NO Salute by the Duty Sixer, the Pack Scouters or the Pack.



Dismiss

The following form of dismissal shall be used at the END of meetings and on formal parades. The Pack will be in a Circle. The Pack must be at the "Alert".

- Akela says "*PACK*" (warning to attract attention) and then gives the order "*PACK*(pause), *PACK DISMISS*".
- All Cubs turn to the right, Salute, pause and break away outwards. Akela and the other Pack Scouters return the Salute standing at the "Alert" until the Pack has broken away, then on the instruction of Akela they turn to the right and fall out.
- Optional: The order "*PACK DISMISS*" may be preceded with the order "*GOOD HUNTING PACK*" at which the Pack replies "*GOOD HUNTING AKELA*".

Closing Prayer

At the conclusion of the Flag Down Ceremony Akela may ask for a Cub to say a prayer according to their belief. Alternatively, the Pack may recite (or sing) the Cub Prayer before being dismissed.

Pack Prayer

*"Teach me to keep my Promise Lord,
and help me to obey;
and show me what my duty is,
to serve you day by day."*



The Cub Investiture Ceremony

When the Cub Investiture takes place, it must be remembered that if the new Cub was a Meerkat, they are merely transferring from one Unit of the Group to another. Removing the Meerkat's Group Scarf and then presenting it to them again is incorrect.

The following should be ready:

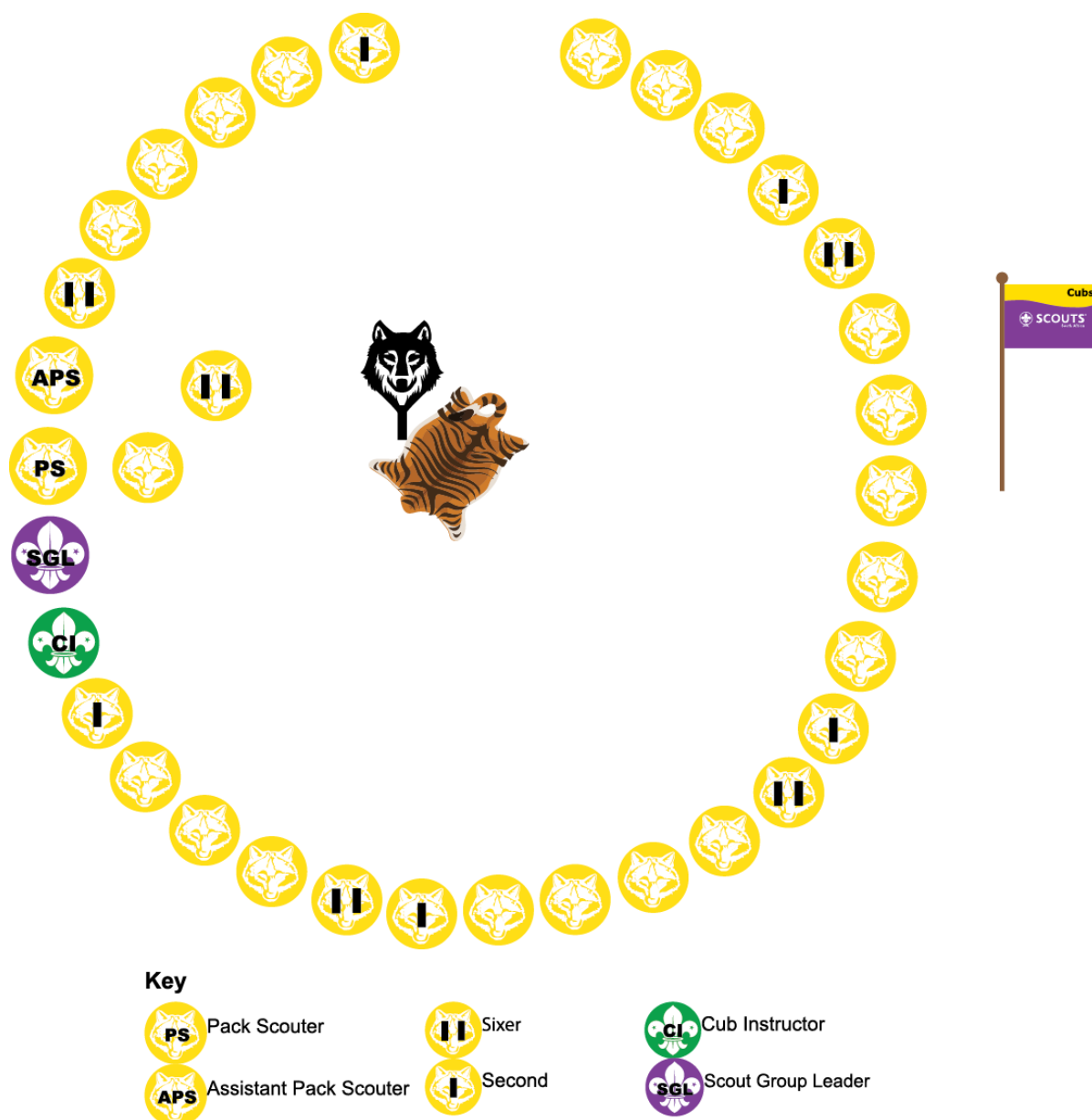
- The Recruit's cap, World Membership badge, SCOUTS South Africa ribbon, and the District and Regional emblems - if any - are conveniently at hand (but not on the floor at the feet of Akela).
- The Welcome Certificate and the Cub Workbook - if given.
- The SGL has the Group Scarf, woggle and the Group nametape (for a new member of the Group), which they will present to the Cub. If the DC is present they can present the District and Region badges. Alternatively, the APS can hand out the Region and District badges. The Sixer has the Six patch.
- The parents of the Recruit being invested should be invited to the Ceremony if the Cub does not object, but it should not be a public affair.
- A maximum of two or three Recruits should be invested on the same occasion. They must be called up and invested individually.

Procedure

The Pack is formed up in a Parade Circle. The SGL, Pack Scouters, Cub Instructors and uniformed Pack Helpers form part of the Circle. Non-uniformed Pack Helpers are outside the Circle. The parents of the Cub to be invested stand outside the Circle in a position where they can see and hear the ceremony and take photographs.

The Pack stands at the "Alert". When ordered, the Sixer brings forward the Recruit to stand in front of Akela, who takes one step into the Circle. The Sixer returns to their Six.





AKELA *"Do you know and understand the Cub Promise and Law?"*

RECRUIT *"Yes Akela, I do."*

AKELA *"Do you know the Grand Howl, Salute and Handshake?"*

RECRUIT *"Yes Akela, I do."*

AKELA *"What is the Law?"*

RECRUIT *"The Cub gives in to the Old Wolf.*
The Cub does not give in to himself/herself."

AKELA *"Are you ready to make the solemn Promise of the Cubs?"*

RECRUIT *"Yes Akela, I am."*

AKELA *"PACK (pause), PACK SALUTE" "SALUTE".*
 To the Recruit "Cub's name, Salute". The Recruit salutes.



The Recruit repeats the Promise, phrase by phrase after Akela, pausing after the word "God" to indicate their first loyalty,

- Akela: *"I promise to do my best ...*
- Cub: ...
- Akela: To do my duty to God (pause) and my Country...
- Cub: ...
- Akela: *To keep the Law of the Wolf Cub Pack ...*
- Cub: ...
- Akela: *And to do a good turn to somebody every day.*
- Cub: ..."

At the end of the Promise, at the instruction "DOWN", all come down from the Salute in time with Akela.

- Akela then says to the new Cub: *"I trust you to do your best to keep this Promise. You are now a Cub and a member of the World-Wide Brotherhood of Scouting."*
- Akela then shakes hands with the new Cub. This is followed by the order: *"PACK (pause), PACK STAND AT EASE."*
- Akela then pins on the cloth World Membership badge with a brief word about its meaning and the SCOUTS South Africa ribbon.
- The Pack Scouters or DC - if present - pin on the Regional emblem and the District emblem - if any - to their shirt.
- If the Cub is new to the Group, Akela asks the SGL to put on the Group Scarf and woggle, and hand them their Group nametape. This is done with a few suitable words of explanation and welcome. If the SGL is not present then Akela does this.
- Akela gives the order: *"SIXER FALL OUT"*. The Sixer comes up and pins the Six patch on the left sleeve of the new Cub who will join their Six. The Sixer says a few words of welcome to the Cub and remains one step behind the new Cub.
- Akela then hands the Cub their cap which the Cub puts on themselves. Some Packs may wish to present the new Cub with a Welcome Certificate and a copy of the Cub Workbook. The Cub collects their certificate and Cub Workbook – if given - after the ceremony is over to avoid inconvenience while saluting and doing the Grand Howl.



- Akela then shakes hands with the new Cub using the left handshake and welcomes the Cub to the Pack.
- Akela gives the order: *"PACK (pause), PACK ALERT"*.
- Akela, making sure that the Cub has an empty hand, orders:
"CUB (Cub's name), ABOUT TURN. SALUTE THE PACK."
"PACK (pause), PACK SALUTE" (after a moment's pause)
"CUB (Cub's name), JOIN YOUR SIX."
 The Sixer and the new Cub return to their places in the Parade Circle.
- Akela then gives the order: *"PACK (pause), PACK SALUTE"*

The ceremony ends with the Grand Howl in which the new Cub joins for the first time. Some Packs honour the new Cub with the Pack Yell, or *"WOOF, WOOF, WOOF"* to conclude the ceremony.

The Presentation of Advancement and Interest Badges

The ceremony is very simple and should not be overemphasised.

- The Pack is formed up in a Parade Circle. This may be done at the opening or closing ceremony.
- Akela gives a brief explanation of the badge to be awarded and adds a few words of congratulations and encouragement.
- The Cubs are called up individually to receive their badges.
- The Cub and Akela Salute each other; Akela then pins the badge on the Cub's uniform and shakes hands with the Cub congratulating them on the advancement or interest. The Cub is handed the badge certificate in their left hand. Akela and the Cub Salute again and the Cub then returns to their position in the Circle.
- The Pack may honour them with the Pack Yell, or *"ONE, TWO, THREE – WOOF"*, or *"WOOF, WOOF, WOOF"* to conclude the ceremony.

If a parents' evening is due very soon, badges could be presented then, but Cubs should rarely be kept waiting for more than one week before being presented with a badge.



The Presentation of Sixer and Second Stripes

Some Packs hold simple ceremonies for this and it is certainly an occasion for congratulations and "Good Hunting". The Pack might also give the Pack Yell, or "*ONE, TWO, THREE – WOOF*", or "*WOOF, WOOF, WOOF*". The Cub does not reaffirm their Promise at the presentation. Sixer and Second stripes are presented in the same way as Advancement and Interest badges.

The Presentation of the Leaping Wolf Badge



If the Cub has no objection, their parents should be invited to attend the ceremony. The Leaping Wolf badge should be presented to the Cub as soon as they have gained it, and not as part of the Going-Up Ceremony.

Even if the Cub only gains the badge just before they are Going-Up, it should be presented at a Pack ceremony apart from the Troop, just prior to the Going-Up Ceremony.

It is important that the Leaping Wolf badge is presented by Akela, rather than by the SGL, a Commissioner or other person who is not normally present at Pack Meetings.

The ceremony is as follows:

- Akela has the Leaping Wolf badge handy, complete with safety pin to fix it to the Cub's shirt.
- The Pack is formed in a Parade Circle at the "Alert".
- Akela takes a step into the Circle.
- Akela calls out the Cub to stand in front of them.
- Akela briefly explains to the Pack the significance of the Leaping Wolf badge, stressing that it is the only Cub badge that a Cub wears after investiture as a Scout and for as long as they are with the Troop. The badge is presented with a special word of praise. Mention can also be made of the hard work and effort involved in qualifying for the Leaping Wolf badge. The rest of the Pack should be inspired to do likewise.



AKELA: “(The Cub’s name), are you willing to reaffirm your Promise?”

LEAPING WOLF: “YES AKELA.”

AKELA: “PACK (pause), PACK SALUTE”. The Pack salutes.
The Leaping Wolf repeats the Promise after Akela line by line:
“I promise to do my best ...
To do my duty to God (pause) and my Country...
To keep the Law of the Wolf Cub Pack...
And to do a good turn to somebody every day.”

- When they have completed the Promise, Akela pins on the badge, shakes their hand and congratulates the Cub.
- Akela then orders the Cub to return to their place in the Circle. When they have resumed their place, the Pack gives the Grand Howl, led by the Leaping Wolf Cub.
- The Pack is then dismissed or, if the ceremony is immediately prior to the Going-Up Ceremony, Akela may prefer to have the Pack promptly take up position for the Going-Up Ceremony.

The Presentation of the Leaping Wolf Certificate

If the Cub is still with the Pack, their Leaping Wolf Certificate is presented within the Pack. If the Cub has already gone up to the Troop, they must be invited to a Pack Meeting for the presentation in front of the Pack, wearing their Scout uniform.

The presentation is made by:

- The District Commissioner or the Regional Team Coordinator Cub Programme
- The SGL
- Akela

When presenting the Leaping Wolf Certificate, it must be remembered that whoever presents it is acting on behalf of the Chief Scout of South Africa.



The Going-Up Ceremony from Pack to Troop

All Cubs going up to the Scout Troop must be given a proper Going-Up Ceremony. Thorough preparation by the Group Scouter's Council is essential. At least three months before the Cub(s) is due to go up to the Troop arrangements must be made at the Group Scouters Council for the Cub(s) to meet the Troop Scouter (TS) to register for entry into the Troop. In addition, plans must be made by the TS for the Cub(s) to attend activities with their future Patrol and with the Troop.

The Link badge, which may be gained by the Cub in the Pack before going up to the Troop, is intended to enable them to be invested as a Scout immediately after their Going-Up Ceremony. Thus, bridging the gap between their departure from the Pack and their induction into the Troop. Their training and testing for the Link badge must be carried out by the TS.

If the Cub(s) does not have sufficient time left in the Pack to complete the Link badge before turning 11 years old, the TS must ensure that the Cub(s) participates in a Patrol and a Troop activity/meeting shortly before they go up. It is important that the Cub knows their future TS, Patrol Leader, and at least some of the Scouts before they leave the security of the Pack. The Cub will then have to complete the Membership requirements before being invested.

The Going-Up Ceremony

Again, proper preparation for the actual ceremony by the Group Scouter's Council is essential. The date, time, and place for the Going-Up Ceremony must be settled at a Council meeting some time beforehand.

The Going-Up Ceremony and - where possible - the Cub's investiture as a Scout immediately afterwards, is as important an event in the Cub's life as the day they made their Promise as a Cub. As pointed out in the section "On the Conduct of Ceremonies", it is undesirable that any Investiture be carried out at a public function. It is rather an occasion for a deepening bond between the new Scout, their Scouters, and their Patrol members, witnessed by their parents.

If a parents' evening has been arranged for the same night, the ceremony should be performed before the guests arrive or in a quiet place nearby, away from the visitors.



Explain to the Cub(s) what precisely will happen at the Going-Up and the subsequent Scout Investiture Ceremonies. Reassure them and dispel any thoughts that they might have that it is an "initiation" ceremony. Emphasise that it is a great moment in their life and one to eagerly look forward to.

The Going-Up Ceremony is conducted according to routine. It is important that the Pack sees what is going on so that there can be no nagging doubts about the possibility of any initiation ceremony - which is not permitted in any Branch of the Movement. There could be doubt on this point if the Pack and Troop were so separated as to be out of sight of one another.

The presence of the SGL is of vital importance. The briefing of the Troop and of the Pack needs to be carried out carefully to avoid any suggestion of hilarity in the Troop, born of ignorance of the Cub-part of the ceremony.

- The Pack is formed in a Parade Circle, the Troop in a horseshoe formation a short distance away.
- Akela stands one step inside the Circle facing the opening of the horseshoe.
- APSs, Cub Instructors and Pack Helpers form part of the Circle nearest to the horseshoe. The TS, with an ATS holding the Troop Flag, and the Cub's future Patrol Leader on each side of them - slightly behind - stand at the entrance of the horseshoe facing the Pack.
- The Totem Pole (if the Pack has one) is in the Pack Circle.
- Akela gives a brief explanation of the significance of the occasion, and what is happening.
- The Pack gives the Grand Howl, led by the Cub(s) going up.
- The Cub(s) going up are called out in front of Akela. The Pack stands at the "Alert".
- Akela orders *"PACK (pause), PACK SALUTE"*.
- Akela asks the Cub(s) (individually - in turn - if there is more than one) to re-affirm the Cub Promise by repeating after them phrase by phrase. (Note: "I promise" NOT "I have promised").
- The APSs and Cub Instructors then say goodbye and wish the Cub(s) good luck and good Scouting.
- The Pack then gives the Pack Yell, or a *"ONE, TWO, THREE, WOOF" or "WOOF, WOOF, WOOF."*



- Akela then orders "*OPEN THE CIRCLE*", whereupon that part of the Parade Circle nearest the Troop, led by the APSs and CIs, divides and backs away to convert the Circle into a horseshoe. This enables the whole Pack to watch the rest of the ceremony whilst still standing at the "Alert".
- Akela then leads the Cub(s) through the gap in the Circle to the SGL who is standing midway between the Pack and the Troop. Akela gives the SGL a Salute and then a brief outline of the Cub(s)'s career, wishes the Cub(s) good luck, and hands them over. The SGL greets them with a few suitable words of encouragement.
- The SGL presents the Cub(s) to the TS, who shakes hands with the Cub(s) (left handshake) and welcomes them to the Troop. In turn, the TS hands the Cub(s) over to the Patrol Leader of the Patrol(s) the Cub(s) will join. The PL(s) then take the Cub(s) back to their Patrol(s).

The "handing over" must be dignified, with no extra trimmings or exaggerated movements such as leaping over a rope, a stick or a mark on the floor.

NOTE: If there is no SGL then Akela will take the Cub(s) directly to the TS.

- The ceremony ends with the Troop greeting the new Recruit(s) with the Troop Yell, cheers or applause.
- If no Pack/Troop joint activities have been arranged after the Scout Investiture Ceremony, the Cub(s) would be free to depart after the Going-Up Ceremony. The SGL (or failing him/her, one of the Scouters by arrangement) brings the Going-Up Ceremony to a close with a suitable prayer.
- Akela then orders the Circle to close before dismissing the Pack. The Cub(s) then leave the hall or area and are not present at the Scout Investiture Ceremony that should immediately follow.

The Cub(s) going up is in full Cub uniform.

After the Cub(s) has been invested as a member(s) of the Troop at the Scout Investiture Ceremony, it is a good opportunity for joint activities of the Pack and Troop. Activities could include a few carefully chosen games for a short time until the Cub(s) go home and the Troop Meeting proper starts. This strengthens the bonds between Pack and Troop.

The approach to the whole ceremony is one of pride and happiness that another Cub is joining the Troop. No suggestion of sadness at losing them from the Pack must be allowed to creep in.



The Council Rock

A Council Rock must be used. Its form depends on the ingenuity of the Pack Scouters. It could be a small artificial/real Rock covered with sacking or depicting a tiger skin, as long as it is used for no other purpose than demarcating the Council Rock.

The Council Rock must be kept in a special position in the Pack Den to which it is returned after each ceremony.

Totem Poles

It is recommended that every Pack has a Totem Pole and the following points are emphasised:

- The Totem embodies the spirit and traditions of the Pack, and is best kept in the Pack Den. It must have a stand, and be allotted a special position in the Den, to which it must be returned after each ceremony.
- A Totem Pole is never paraded.
- It must not be used in any ceremony in a manner that suggests that the Promise is being made to the Totem.
- In the Grand Howl Circle, the Wolf faces the Duty Sixer thereby letting the Pack know which Sixer is leading the Grand Howl.

Origin and Purpose of the Totem Pole

If a Pack possesses a Totem Pole, it is encouraged to share its history and origin with the Cubs. This will create interest and enhance understanding of its purpose.

Totems have been used for many years by tribes in Australia, Polynesia, South and West Africa and throughout America. The meaning of them is perhaps clearer among the Native Americans of North America than anywhere else. It is here that the totem marks a clan or family division. Broadly speaking the word means a "crest" or "coat of arms," but whereas a crest is static, a totem can be added to by each generation. At any rate, that is the way the Native Americans used theirs, with good effect. In front of their houses or at the entrance to their village they set tall poles or posts, carved with various devices and symbols showing the records of great deeds, usually those performed by their ancestors. At the top of the pole they carved an animal or a bird. Sometimes even the species of a plant or an abstract quality such as "pride". But the beasts or birds were most



commonly used. They looked upon this as a kind of mascot and they believed that it watched over them and protected them from danger, though it cannot be too strongly stressed that worship of the totem never occurred - it was very largely a clan badge.

This might clarify why our Founder B-P said in the **Wolf Cub Handbook** that "Every Pack should own a Totem Pole." He went on to say that all Cubs belong to one large family and have as their crest the Wolf Head, which can be used as their totem. Just as the Native Americans used theirs to show the records of their great deeds, so can the Pack. Honours earned by the Cubs can be added, at the discretion of the PS. In time, the Totem Pole will stand for much of the tradition of the Pack and will reflect a record of its achievements.

Pack Flags

It is hoped that each Pack will have a Pack Flag as described in the Brand Manual, bearing the Pack name as part of its traditional background.



The following points are mentioned for guidance:

- It is recommended that the Pack use only the Cub Flag. This flag may be flown at normal Pack Meetings, at Cub Camps, Pack Holidays, District Rallies, Church Parades, Fun Days, etc.
- If the National Flag is flown, it must be given precedence over all others.
- Flags must be carried in the correct manner and with the proper equipment, e.g. flag bucket.
- The Pack Flag may **NOT** be used in the Investiture of a Cub. The Cub may **NOT** hold it whilst taking their Promise. If desired, it may be on Parade, flying from a proper mast, or held by an APS or Cub Instructor outside the Circle.



scout ceremonies

Neatness

Insistence on a reasonable degree of neatness and discipline is good for a Troop. It stimulates pride within the Scouts in belonging to a neat Patrol, but it also considerably eases the task of the Scouter.

When an individual Scout is ordered to "*FALL OUT*" from a Troop or Patrol parade formation for any reason (e.g. a Flag Ceremony when the flag is broken or lowered, to speak with a Scouter, etc.), they should come to the "Alert", take one step back out of the ranks, and then break away.



On parade, if a Scout is required to speak to a Scouter, they approach, halt two paces in front of the Scouter, and salute. The Scouter will return the salute and then speak to the Scout. The same procedure is followed if a Scouter on parade wishes to speak to another Scouter senior to them in rank (e.g. an ATS who wishes to speak to the TS or the TS wishes to speak to the SGL). The salute is a form of greeting and respect.

Opening and Closing Ceremonies

The normal order of the various items at the start of the Troop Meeting is:

1. The Troop parades in front of the flagpole.
2. The Opening Flag Ceremony (Flag break).
3. The opening prayer, (preferably led by one of the PLs).
4. Inspection of uniforms, collections of subscriptions etc.

The normal order at the close of the Troop Meeting is:

1. The Troop parades in front of the flagpole.
2. Notices are announced.
3. The Closing Flag Ceremony (Flag down).
4. Prayers.
5. Dismiss.



Opening Flag Ceremony

The procedure is simple and dignified.

- The flag - prepared for breaking - is positioned at the top of the flagpole (or pulley attached to the ceiling). The loose ends of the halyard are wound around the cleat. The length to be pulled for breaking is slightly looser than the other.
- The order is given "TROOP (pause), TROOP ALERT". Alternatively, a hand signal can be used.
- On command from the Scouter: "DUTY PATROL LEADER" (or another Scout by name), the Scout concerned:
 - takes one step forward and smartly marches directly to the flagpole,
 - halts one pace from the flagpole at the "Alert",
 - places their hand on the looser part of the halyard, and tugs firmly to break the flag.
- If the flag breaks - or even if it does not break after a firm tug - the Scout takes a step back and the order is given "TROOP (pause), TROOP SALUTE".
- At the instruction "DOWN" all return to the "Alert".
- Without further order, the Scout executes an "About turn" and marches smartly back to their place. The parade remains at the "Alert" until ordered to "STAND AT EASE".
- If the flag did not break, it is then "broken" and the surplus loose halyard wound around the cleat. This is done after the ceremony is over so the parade should not have to wait for this to be completed.

Break

When the Troop is in a formation on parade and they need to fall out to undertake an activity as individuals, the following procedure should be followed:

- The Troop is ordered to the "Alert".
- The Scouter then orders: "TROOP (pause), TROOP BREAK".
- All the Scouts execute a right-turn, pause, and then break away outwards.
- The Scouters stand at the "Alert" until the Troop has broken away, turn smartly to the right, and then fall out.

Alternatively, the TS can handover to the Patrol Leader to break their individual Patrols. The same procedure as above applies. NOTE - No salute is given.



Closing Flag Ceremony

The procedure to be followed for the Closing Flag Ceremony is the same as for the Opening Ceremony (Flag break) with the exception that there is no salute. The Troop stands at the "Alert" without saluting while the flag is lowered. After the flag has been lowered, the Scout simply makes two turns of the halyard around the cleat and tucks the flag between the flagpole and halyard, so it does not touch the floor.

The Scout then takes a step backwards, executes an "About turn" and will stand close to the TS. The PL or Scout will then say the closing prayer. It is up to the troop to uncover (headwear) depending on the cultural customs. After the prayer, he/she marches smartly back to their place in the ranks. They do NOT remove the flag from the halyard. This is done after the ceremony.

Dismiss

The following form of dismissal shall be adopted for use at the END of meetings and formal parades. It applies to whatever formation the Troop may be in at the time:

- The Troop is ordered to the "Alert".
- The Scouter then orders: "TROOP (pause), TROOP DISMISS".

All Scouts execute a right-turn, salute, pause, and break away outwards. The Scouters return the salute standing at the "Alert" until the Troop has broken away. They then do a right-turn and fall out.



The Scout Investiture Ceremony



The preparation for this ceremony and the general considerations for the conduct of it are the same as for other Investitures (see "On the Conduct of Ceremonies").

At least three months before a Cub(s) is due to go up to the Troop arrangements must be made at the Group Scouter's Council for the Cub(s) to meet the TS to register for entry into the Troop. In addition, plans must be made by the TS for the Cub(s) to take part in an activity with their future Patrol or with the Troop, as well as for their training and testing for the Link badge requirements.

The Link badge, which may be gained by the Cub in the Pack before going up to the Troop, is intended to enable them to be invested as a Scout immediately after their Going-Up Ceremony. Thus, bridging the gap between their departure from the Pack and their induction into the Troop.

If the Cub(s) does not have sufficient time left to complete the Link badge in the Pack before turning eleven years old, the TS must ensure that the Cub(s) participates in a Patrol or Troop activity/meeting shortly before they go up. It is important that the Cub knows their future TS, Patrol Leader, and at least some of the Scouts before they leave the security of the Pack. The Cub will then have to complete the Membership requirements before being invested into the Troop.



Equipment

The Troop Flag, attached to a flagpole or stave, is held by the Troop Leader (TL), or an ATS. The SGL will have the Group Scarf and woggle (if the Recruit has not been a Cub). If the Recruit has not been a Cub the TS has the World Scout Membership badge with safety pin, SCOUTS South Africa ribbon and the District and Region emblems - if any – on hand.

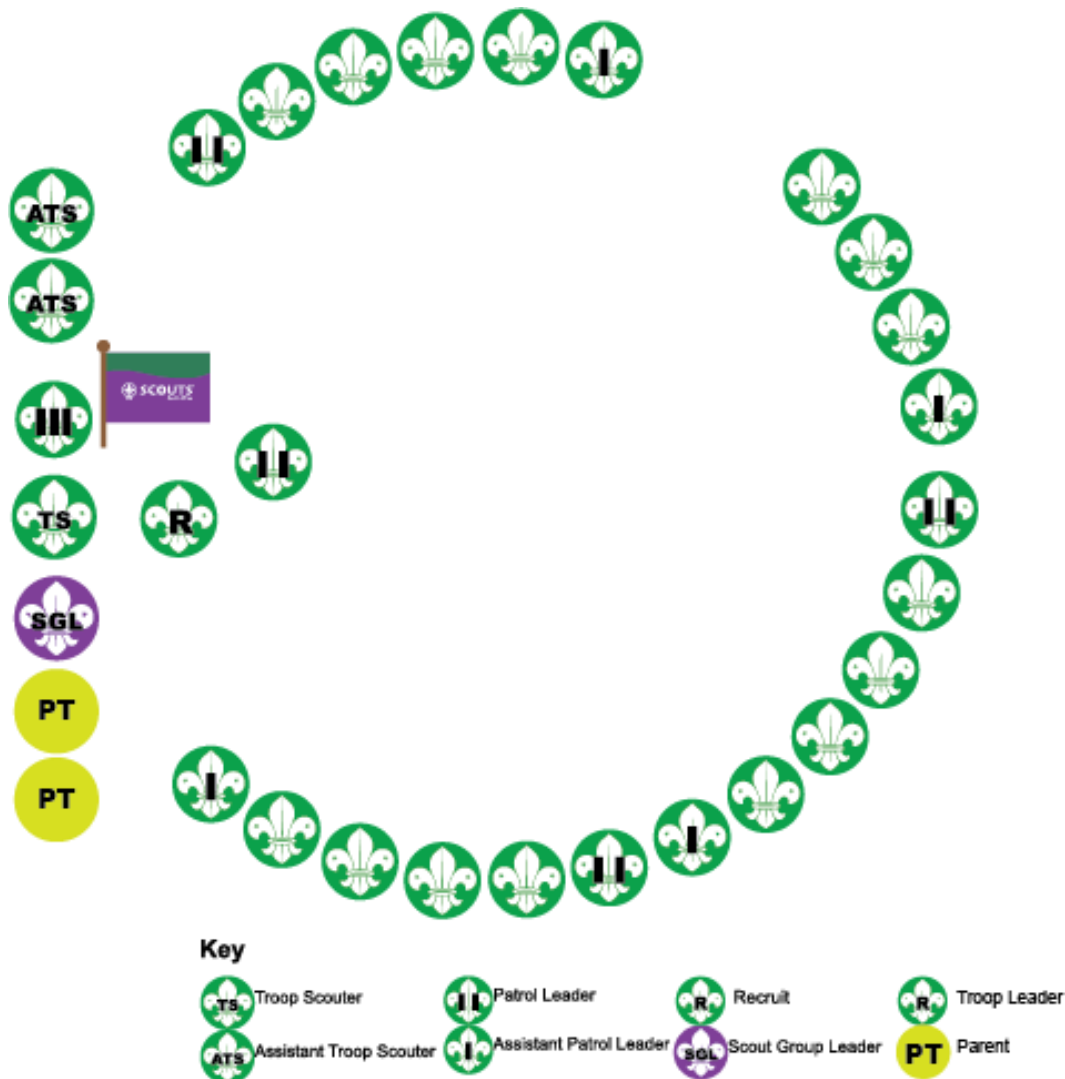
An ATS holds the:

- Scout's hat, as worn in the Troop
- Scout Welcome Certificate ("You are now a Scout"), optional, if provided by the Troop.
- My Scout Journey, optional if provided by the Troop.

The Scout's future Patrol Leader has the Patrol Patch.

NOTE: When an ex-Cub is being invested in the same Group, they keep their Scarf on during the ceremony as they never ceased being a member of the Group. Therefore, they have always been entitled to wear it since investiture as a Cub. Only if the new Scout is completely new to Scouting, or a Cub from another Group, should the SGL give them their Group Scarf during the Scout Investiture Ceremony. In either case the SGL should be present.





Procedure

- The Troop is formed up in a horseshoe formation with the TS standing in the gap facing the Troop. The Troop Leader, or an ATS stands holding the Troop Flag upright on the TS's left with the remainder of the ATSSs. The SGL stands on the right of the TS.
- Only invested Scouts and - if the Recruit has no objection - their parents and Akela, who stands next to the ATS with the flag, may be present. All Recruits are asked to leave the room. The first Investiture a Scout sees is their own.
- The parents may stand on the TS's right (next to the SGL if present), where they can see and hear the ceremony and take photographs. Otherwise it is a private Troop affair. Cubs and other spectators should NEVER be present.



- The SGL (or an ATS if the SGL is not present) holds the Recruit's Group Scarf if they have not been a Cub in the Group. An ATS holds the other items (see above).
- The Recruit to be invested and their future Patrol Leader are with their Patrol in the horseshoe. The Troop is "at ease".
- The TS briefly describes the significance of the occasion, then orders:
- "TROOP (pause), TROOP ALERT".
- "PATROL LEADER"... (their name), PRESENT YOUR RECRUIT".
- The Patrol Leader and the Recruit take one step forward out of the horseshoe and then march forward to halt two paces in front of the TS. They stand at the "Alert".
- The TS asks: "*Recruit ... (their name), do you know what your Honour means?*"
- Recruit (prompted by the TS if necessary) replies:
"Yes, it means that I can be trusted to be truthful and honest."
- Troop Scouter: "*Do you know the Scout Promise and Law?*"
- Recruit: "Yes"
- Troop Scouter: "*Can I trust you on your Honour to do your best- to do your duty to God (pause), and your Country. To help other people at all times. To obey the Scout Law?*"
- Recruit: "Yes"
- The Troop Leader or ATS steps forward and lowers the Troop Flag until its staff is horizontal between the TS and the Recruit, taking care that the cloth of the flag does not touch the ground. (Where a Troop Flag is not available, omit all references to its use.)
- The TS gives the following command to the Troop:
- "TROOP (pause), TROOP SCOUT SIGN".
- All those present who have been invested as members make the Scout Sign.
- TS to Recruit: "Grasp the Troop Flag with your left hand". (The TS and the Recruit do so.) The TS then says words to this effect:
- "*I am now going to ask you to make your Promise which will make you a Scout. The Troop Flag represents the Honour of the Troop. Many Recruits over the years, when they joined the Troop, have promised on their Honour to do their best to live up to their Promise as good Scouts. Once you have made your Promise, you are no longer just a Recruit, you are a Scout. I*



am holding the Troop Flag with you, for we shall make the Promise together signifying that I, as your Troop Scouter, will do my utmost to help you to keep this Promise."

- The Troop Scouter then says: "Repeat after me:
On my Honour I promise...
(The Recruit repeats each phrase after the TS)
... that I will do my best...
... to do my duty to God (pause), and my Country...
... to help other people at all times...
... to obey the Scout Law...."
- As the TL or ATS raises the flag between them, and the Troop resumes its position of "Alert" (i.e. no Scout Sign), the TS shakes the Scout's left hand and says:
"(name), I trust you, on your Honour, to keep this Promise. You are now a Scout and a member of the World-wide brotherhood of Scouts. I congratulate you and warmly welcome you as a member of the Troop where I hope you will have fun and adventure and many happy years of Scouting."
- If the Recruit has not been a Cub, the TS pins the World Scout Membership cloth badge, their District emblem and their Regional emblem - if any - on their uniform with safety pins. If the Recruit has been a Cub, they will already be wearing the World Scout Membership Badge and the other emblems.
- The TS is handed the Scout Welcome Certificate and a copy of the My Scout Journey (optional, if provided by the Troop), by an ATS and the TS in turn presents them to the new Scout.
- The TS then retrieves the Scout Welcome Certificate and the My Scout Journey from the Scout. They are collected from an ATS after the ceremony is over. This avoids confusing the Scout who still has to salute and shake hands.
- The SGL then comes forward to welcome the Recruit as a Scout in the Group. If the Recruit has not been a Cub in the Group, the SGL (or if they are not present, an ATS) presents the Scout with their Group Scarf and nametape saying that it indicates that they are now a full member of the Group family. They also present them with their Scout hat (if worn by the Troop) which the Scout themselves puts on.



- The SGL then shakes hands with the left hand and welcomes the new Scout to the Group (or Troop if they were a Cub).
- The Patrol Leader of the Scout's Patrol then steps forward and pins the Patrol Patch at the top of the Scout's left sleeve to signify that they have been accepted by the Patrol. They congratulate the new member of their Patrol and welcome them. They then step back one pace.
- The ATSS step forward and shake hands, congratulating the new Scout.
- The TS then orders:
"PATROL LEADER... (Patrol name) and SCOUT (name), ABOUT TURN".
 (They about turn and face the Troop.)
 TS: *"SCOUT (name), SALUTE THE TROOP."* (The Scout does so.)
 TS: *"TROOP (pause), TROOP SALUTE"* (The Troop does so.)
 TS: *"RETURN TO YOUR PATROL."* (The PL and new Scout re-join their Patrol.)
- The ceremony ends with the Troop Leader (or Duty PL) leading the Troop in the Troop Yell, cheers, or applause for the new Scout.

It is sometimes desirable to invest more than one Recruit on the same evening, and all the Recruits to be invested may be in the horseshoe. Each will be brought forward for investiture by their PL separately and make their Promise individually. In fact, the ceremony is simply repeated for each new Scout. For this reason, it is undesirable to invest more than three Recruits on any evening as it is quite wrong for them to make their Promises in unison. More than three repetitions of this very important ceremony will be boring to the Scouts.

While the Assistant ATSS carry on with the meeting, the TS takes the Scout's parents into the Scouter's Den for a chat (and tea if possible).

The Presentation of Advancement and Interest Badges

These presentations are all made by the TS, although it is hoped that the SGL will be present on some occasions. It may also be possible to present badges at a parents' evening. Although Scouts should rarely be kept waiting for the presentation for more than a week.

The Traveller and Discoverer Advancement Badges

- The Troop is in horseshoe formation and the recipients are called up individually by the TS to receive their badges.



- The Scout and TS salute each other.
- The TS holds up the badge and gives a brief explanation of the work that has been done for the badge to be awarded and adds a few words of congratulations and encouragement. The TS then pins the badge on the Scout's uniform and shakes hands with the Scout congratulating them on their advancement. The Scout is handed the badge certificate in their left hand.
- The TS and the Scout again salute. The Scout then returns to their position in the Patrol.

The ceremony could end with the Troop yell or applause.

The First-Class Scout Badge and the Challenge Awards.

It is right that more attention should be paid to the presentation of these badges and awards. The actual presentation should follow closely the lines of the procedure described above, but the TS should place much more emphasis upon the Scout's achievement. When being presented with their First-Class badge, the Scout should renew their Scout Promise, on the Troop Flag, before receiving the badge. This should encourage others to try and will certainly allow the Scout a moment of legitimate personal pride.

Scoutcraft and Interest Badges

The ceremony is the same as that for the Traveller and Discoverer badges.

The Presentation of the Springbok Scout Award Badge



The occasion of the award of a Springbok Scout badge - Top Award - is one that should be given particular significance in the life of the Group. Although it is unwise to delay presentation of the badge until a suitable Group occasion, it is worth remembering that the award of this badge, if made in the presence of other Units of the Group, can be an incentive to more than just the Scouts. It is suggested that the whole Group should be present, including parents.



Like the presentation of all badges earned, recognition should be immediate. The Scout should be presented with their badge as soon as possible after the award application has been approved by the National Office. There is no harm in having a more formal presentation of the Springbok Certificate at a Group occasion, or at a later stage such as Regional Springbok Parade, with their parents present.

At this formal Group occasion, the Scout may present (as is custom in the particular Group) a Springbok Scout metal pin badge to their mother and father, in recognition of the support and encouragement that the Springbok Scout received from them.

It should be noted that the Springbok badge is awarded and worn by the Scout before they receive the Springbok Certificate.

- There is no set ceremony, and if more than the Scout Troop is present, they will naturally be formed up in any convenient way. If the Troop alone is witnessing the ceremony, it should be drawn up in horseshoe formation.
- The Scout decides whether they would like to receive it from the hands of their TS or from the DC.
- The Scout will renew their Scout Promise, on the Troop Flag, before receiving their Springbok badge.
- In every case due consideration should be given to ensure that the recipient realises not only the pride with which the Springbok badge is presented, but also the responsibility attached to the award.

Whatever the arrangements for this ceremony are, it is worthwhile making it a special occasion for the parents of the Scout too.

Presentation of the Springbok Scout Award Certificate

- Wherever possible, the Springbok Scout Certificate associated with the Springbok Scout Award is presented to the recipient by the Chief Scout. Where necessary, the Chief Scout may appoint the Deputy Chief Scout, the Chief Commissioner, the Regional Commissioner or another suitable person to present the certificate on their behalf.
- Whoever presents the certificate(s) should speak about the achievements that this award represents and the effort that has been put in.



- Many Regions arrange a special ceremony to which parents and relatives are invited – this may take the form of a special function or can be done at the Regional Annual Review Meeting, with the parents and Troop present for the ceremony.
- It is customary for the parents to join their Scout for the presentation, standing just behind the Scout.
- When a Scout cannot attend the special ceremony to receive their certificate from the Chief Scout, their parents may be presented with it in their place.

Appointment of a Patrol Leader

The following simple ceremony may be found useful in emphasising the importance of the Patrol Leader's job. It is conducted by the TS, but the presence of the SGL will mark it as an important occasion. The details can be varied, but refinements usually add to the length of the ceremony without increasing its impressiveness.

The Troop will be drawn up in horseshoe formation by the Troop Leader, Duty PL or ATS. The PL's stripes, hat badge, and Patrol Flag - if used - will be available.

- TS: *"After consultation with the Court of Honour I have agreed to appoint ... (name) as Patrol Leader of the... (name) Patrol. They have agreed to accept this responsibility."*
- The TS then calls the PL forward.
- TS: *"Do you undertake to do your best to put your Patrol before yourself, the Troop before your Patrol, and to be a Scout worth following at all times?"*
- Patrol Leader: *"I do."*
- The new PL is then either requested to renew their Promise, on the Troop Flag, or accept one of the PL's Oaths - see Annexure 1 (page 73).
- The TS then presents them with the Patrol Leaders stripe, the PL hat badge (where applicable), and the stave bearing the Patrol Flag – if used - with a word or two of good wishes and encouragement.

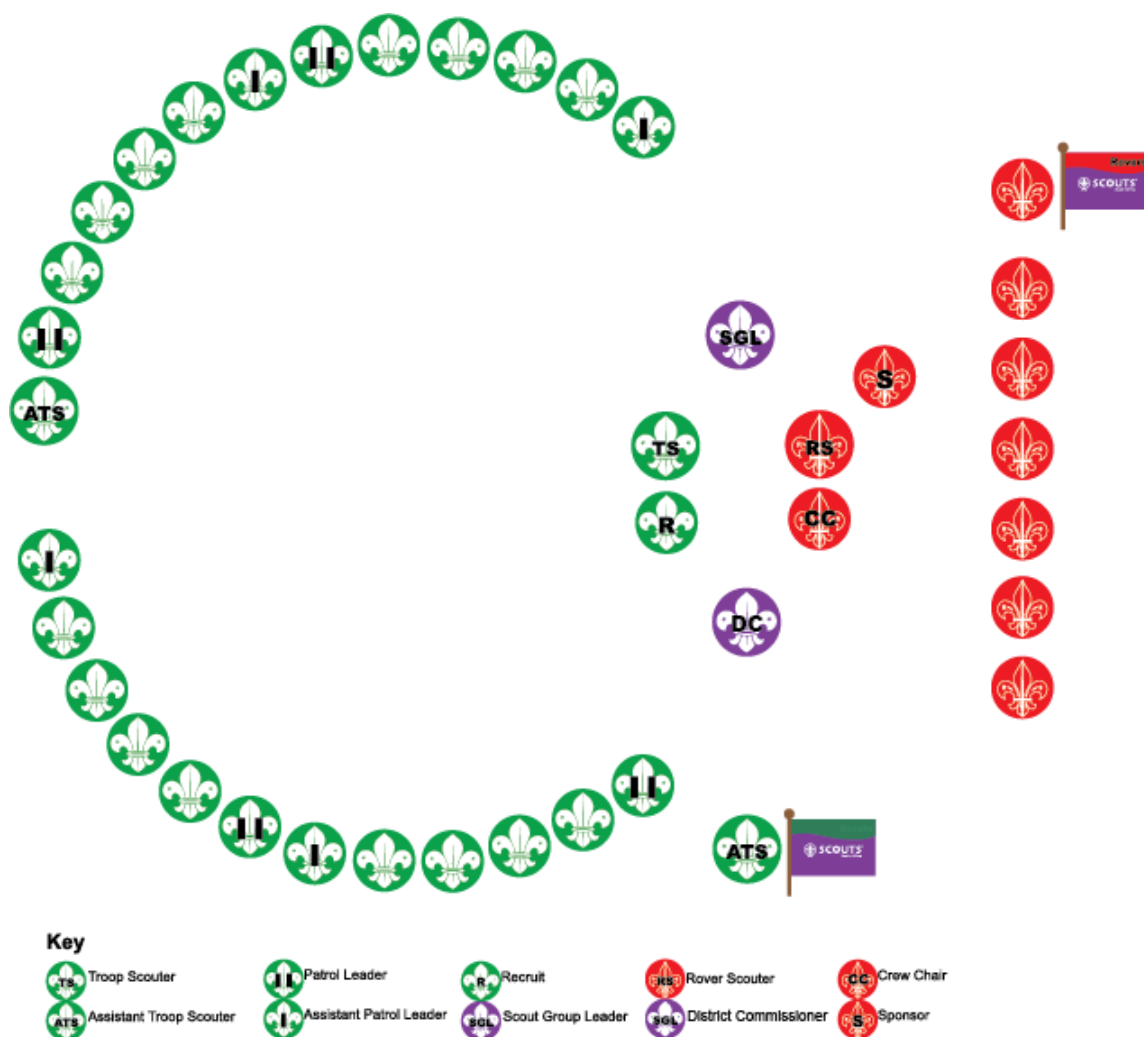
The ceremony concludes with a cheer or the Troop yell. A similar ceremony, without the PL's Oath, can be used for the presentation of an Assistant Patrol Leader (APL) stripe.



The Going-up Ceremony from Troop to Crew

This ceremony is where a Scout turns 18 and is going up from the Troop to the Crew. This is an important stage in a Scout's life and the ceremony highlights this progression. The ceremony should be conducted by both Group Crews and Independent Crews. It is of significant importance to an Independent Crew to conduct this ceremony where the new Rover will not be part of the Group. The ceremony is equally important for Scouts to view, as it shows that becoming a Rover is the next step in Scouting.

A few weeks before the Going-Up Ceremony the Crew should visit the Troop where the prospective Recruit belongs. This is a "meet and greet" of all parties involved in the ceremony, and the Scouters should be informed of the ceremony process. On the day of the Going-Up Ceremony it may not always be possible for the whole Crew to be present, but clearly this is desirable. The Sponsor of the new Rover, together with the RS or Crew Chair must take part in the ceremony.



The Troop falls in on one side of the hall in horseshoe formation, the TS in the opening of the horseshoe. The RS or Crew Chair and the Sponsor behind them face the Troop (see diagram) and the Crew on the other.

The Scout says goodbye to their Troop and if they are a Patrol Leader hands over their Patrol to the new Patrol Leader, and then reports to their TS or SGL, who introduces them to the RS or Crew Chair.

- TS: *"(name) having... years' service as a Scout, is now old enough to become a Rover. I recommend them as a fit candidate, and I trust you will be prepared to accept them as a Rover Squire".*
- RS or Crew Chair to candidate: *"Is it your own wish to complete your Scout training in the Rover Crew?"*
- Candidate: *"It is".*
- RS or Crew Chair: *"Then the Crew is willing to accept you into their fellowship".*
- For a Group Crew, the SGL to Candidate:
"As Leader of the whole Group I want you to know how glad we all are that you are taking this further step forward and we wish you happiness and success in your Rover Scouting."
- For a stand-alone Crew, the DC to Candidate:
"As Leader of the District I want you to know how glad we all are that you are taking this further step forward and we wish you happiness and success in your Rover Scouting."
- RS or Crew Chair:
"Rover Scouting is a fellowship of the Open Air and of Service and I remind you that it is now your duty to prepare yourself for full membership of the Crew, to which end I now entrust you to your Sponsor who will assist you in your effort."

Sponsor shakes hand with candidate. Candidate, with Sponsor behind them, performs an about turn, faces the Scouts, and salutes them – they salute them and give the Troop give a farewell yell.



Troop Flags

It is hoped that each Troop will have a Troop Flag in terms of the Brand Manual, bearing the Troop name as part of its traditional background.



rover ceremonies

There are six important Rover Ceremonies:

- Opening and Closing Ceremony for Rover meetings, Crew Council and Crew-in-Council meetings.
- Squire and Rover Investitures
- Presentation of Awards, Bars and Challenge Awards Ceremony
- Presentation of B-P Award Ceremony
- End-of-Trip Ceremony

These occasions are a formal way of marking significant events or achievements in a Rover's career. Each ceremony marks an important stage in a Rover's life and should be seen as a milestone to be celebrated by the Rover and their Crew.

The Opening and Closing Ceremony for Rover Meetings

This will be held whenever the Crew has a formal meeting. The Crew stands in a circle, with the sword* on a small table covered with the St Georges or the Crew Flag.

Opening Ceremony

- RS or Crew Chair: "Once more we are gathered for the threefold purpose of our Fellowship, to carry out the solemn Promise made at our investitures so that we may all follow the road of friendship and service."
"Are we all assembled here to renew our solemn Promise of Service?"
- Crew: "We do."
- Volunteer Rover removes the sword* from the sheath.
- RS or Crew Chair: "I ask all Rovers who wish to renew their Promise to point their right hand towards the sword* of Service."
- All Rovers point their right hand towards the sword* making the Scout sign.
- RS or Crew Chair: "Let us pray"***
"O God who continues to be the same unchanging Father of Humanity;
Teach us to serve You as You deserve.
To give and not to count on the cost; To fight and not to heed the wounds;
To toil and not to seek for rest; To labour and not to ask for any reward;
Except knowing that we do Thy will. Amen."
- "I declare this meeting open."



**The sword is the symbol of St George and his journey of Knighthood. A Crew may choose any symbolic weapon, e.g. spear, battle axe, assegai etc. instead of a sword.*

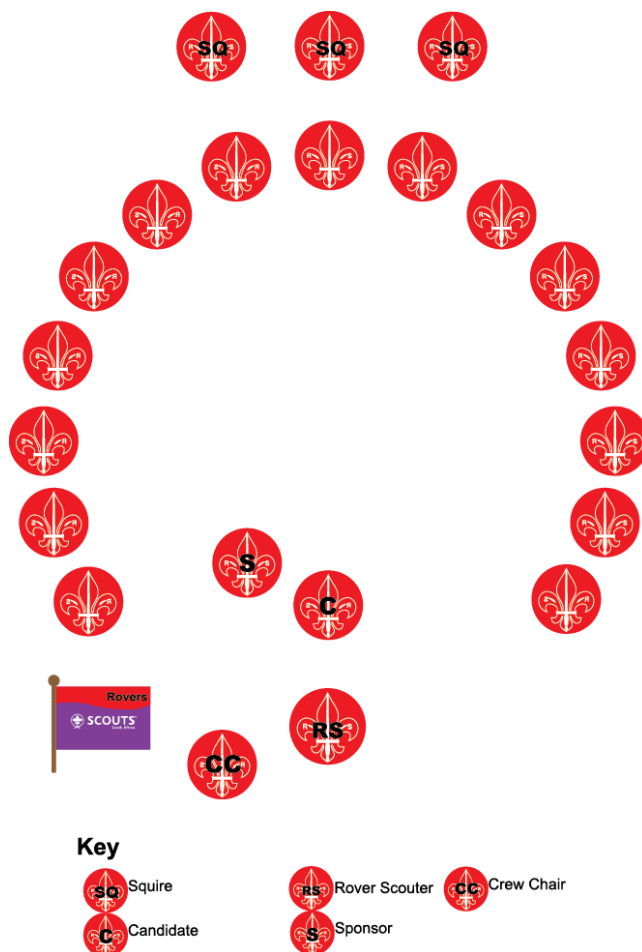
***Any similar prayer can be said depending on the denomination chosen by your Crew.*

Closing Ceremony

- Rover Scouter (RS) or Crew Chair: "As this sheath protects the sword* may God protect our Movement."
- RS or Crew Chair:**
"O God, watch our Rovers everywhere. Especially those of us gathered here tonight. Watch over us during the hours of darkness. Through His name's sake... Amen."

Squire Investiture Ceremony

This ceremony is to be used when a Scout or newcomer formally enters as a member of the Crew.



- The Crew is formed in a semi-circle, Rover Squires in the rear. The RS (or Crew Chair if there is no Rover Scouter) stands in the centre and is faced at six steps distance by the Candidate's Sponsor.
- The Candidate is led by their Sponsor to a position midway between the Rover Scouter and Sponsor facing the Rover Scouter.
- If the Candidate has come up from another Group, then they should be presented by their former TS or SGL. In the case of Independent Crews, by the DC.

The Reception

- Sponsors: *"We present you... (name) a candidate for reception as a Rover Squire."*
- RS or Crew Chair: *"Are you satisfied that... (name) will try to act up to a Rover's obligations and become a worthy member of this Crew?"*
- Sponsors: *"We are."*
- RS or Crew Chair: *"Rovering is a fellowship of the Open Air and Service. In seeking to join, are you ready to improve your knowledge of practical Scouting and to pursue the open-air life?"*
- Candidate: *"I am."*
- RS or Crew Chair: *"Do you realise that your first duty is to your home and to establish yourself in life?"*
- Candidate: *"I do."*
- RS or Crew Chair: *"Are you willing to train yourself for future service in the community?"*
- Candidate: *"I am."*
- RS or Crew Chair: *"Do you accept the way of life set forth in the Scout Promise and Law?"*
- Candidate: *"I do."*
- RS or Crew Chair: *"Then I would now like you to make the Scout Promise as a token of your sincerity and to complete your reception as a Rover Squire."*
- Candidate:

"On my honour I promise that I will do my best;
To do my duty to God and my Country;
To help other people at all times;
To obey the Scout Law."



- RS or Crew Chair: *"I trust you on your honour to keep that promise. I now receive you as a Rover Squire into the World- Wide fellowship of Scouts. It is now your duty to prepare yourself for full membership of the Crew, for which I now entrust you to your Sponsor, who will assist you in your efforts."*
- The Sponsor steps forward and takes their place on the new Rover Squire's right. The Presenter steps back.
- The Sponsor welcomes the Squire to the fellowship of the Crew in suitable terms, and then the two of them march the New Squire to join the circle.

Investiture as a Rover

The investiture should normally be performed by the Rover Scouter, but if this is impossible the Crew Chair may take their place.

It is suggested that it adds to the impressiveness and dignity of the occasion if the Rover Scouter makes a copy of the ceremony bound in a special casing to be presented to the Rover upon the closing of the investiture. A fitting close of the Investiture Ceremony is to finish with the Rover Prayer. This ceremony is only to be seen by invested Rovers. Those who are still Recruits or Rover Squires must not be present during the ceremony.

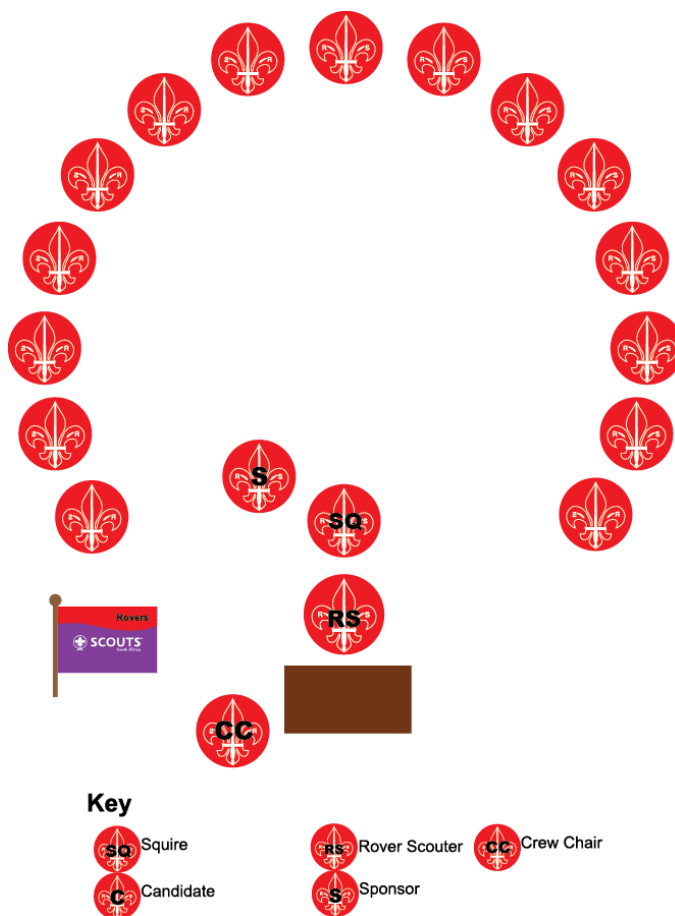
The ceremony can be held in a place of worship, in the open air, or in the Rover Den. If it is held in the Rover Den, it should be done at the end of the evening meeting. It should also be noted that when a new Crew is opened, that only an invested Rover can invest a Recruit or Rover Squire. Thus, it is important for new Crews to liaise with the RTC Rovers on the appointment of a suitable Sponsor Crew who can invest their members.

This ceremony requires more equipment than others. Each item is used within the ceremony and can be adapted to the Crew's preferences. Here is the suggested list:

- A small table
- A flag (either Crew Flag or St. George Flag) to cover the table
- A sword* (or spear or traditional battle axe)
- A small jug of water
- A silver basin



- A hand towel
- A candle holder
- Red, green, yellow, orange candles for the candle holder
- Purple candle (optional)
- Vesting knot (orange, yellow, green, red)(Optional)
- A pair of Rover epaulettes
- The Crew Flag



- Sponsor: *"(Addressing the RS or Crew Chair) I present you (name), as a candidate for reception as a Rover in the ... Crew."*
- RS or Crew Chair: *"(Addressing Sponsor) Are you satisfied the (name) will strive to live by the Scouting principles and become a worthy member of this Crew?"*
- Sponsor: (Addressing RS or Crew Chair) *"I am."*
- RS or Crew Chair: *"(name) have you come with a desire to become a Rover in our World-Wide fellowship?"*
- Squire: *"I have."*
- RS or Crew Chair: *"In spite of any difficulties you have had in the past,*



are you now determined to do your best to be honourable, truthful and straight in all your dealings; clean in what you think, in what you say and in all you do?"

- Squire: *"I am."*
- RS or Crew Chair: *"What is the Motto of all Rovers?"*
- Squire: *"To be prepared for Service."*
- RS or Crew Chair: *"What do you mean by Service?"*
- Squire: *"By Service I mean the help and kindness I owe to all my neighbours."*
- RS or Crew Chair: *"Are you prepared and willing to give such service as and when the opportunity occurs?"*
- Squire: *"I am."*

The Washing (Laving)

- RS or Crew Chair: *"In ancient times it was the custom of those about to become Knights to be washed (laved) with water in token of the washing away of past misdeeds. Are you willing to give such a sign here in the presence of us all?"*
- Squire: *"I am."*
- Squire places their hands together over the basin, while the Sponsor pours water over them, while the other takes the hand towel and dries the Squire's hands.
- RS or Crew Chair: *"You will now renew your Scout Promise, bearing in mind that you are expected to look at it no longer from a youth point of view but from that of an adult. Here is the sword* of Saint George, a symbol of chivalry and strength of the Crew. You will draw it and, holding it aloft, make your Promise."*
- The RS or Crew Chair holds the sword hilt first to the Squire which the Squire shall then draw and hold in their right hand.
- All invested Rovers present make the Scout sign.
- RS or Crew Chair: *"Do you promise on your honour that you will do your best to do your duty to God and your Country?"*
- Squire: *"I will do my best to do my duty to God and my Country."*
- RS or Crew Chair: *"Do you promise to help other people at all times?"*
- Squire: *"I promise to help other people at all times."*
- RS or Crew Chair: *"Do you promise to obey the Scout Law?"*



- Squire: *"I promise to obey the Scout Law."*
- RS or Crew Chair: *"Take witness all."*
- Rovers: *"We are witnesses."*
- RS or Crew Chair: *"This sword is the symbol to all Rovers of their ideals of chivalry, strength and unselfish Service. As a pledge of your fidelity and to render this a solemn promise will you seal it with your lips on the hilt and the blade, kneeling on one knee."*
- Squire kneels.
- RS or Crew Chair takes sword* and dubs the Squire on the left shoulder.
- RS or Crew Chair: *"I now invest you as a Rover and trust you on your honour to do your best."*

Vesting

- A Rover pins the four-fold knot on the left shoulder of the new Rover.
- RS or Crew Chair: *"During the vesting of a Knight in olden times it was customary to pin a white ribbon to the shoulder as a sign of what has been undertaken. Let this four-fold knot remind you therefore of your loyalty to the four branches of Scouting to which you belong, the Orange for the Meerkats, the Yellow for the Cubs; Green for the Scouts and Red for the Rovers."*
- At this point, any badges or scarves the Squire does not already have are presented.

Buffet

- The RS or Crew Chair now takes the Rover by the left hand and gives them a buffet on the upper left arm. (A buffet is a firm tap.)
- RS or Crew Chair: *"I trust you on your honour to keep this Promise and give you the buffet which a Knight of old received to remind you, as it did them, that you have one tender point, namely your honour. Nothing should be more quickly felt, or longer retained, than an imputation against your honour."*
- Sponsor puts epaulettes on the Squire.
- RS or Crew Chair: *"May these epaulettes and badges remind you of your duty to your fellow Scouts and of your responsibility as a Rover to set them at all times an example worthy of your best."*



The Prayer

- RS or Crew Chair:

"God who continues to be the same unchanging Father of Humanity;

- *Teach us to serve You as You deserve;*
- *To give and not to count on the cost;*
- *To fight and not to heed the wounds;*
- *To toil and not to seek for rest;*
- *To labour and not to ask for any reward;*
- *Except knowing that we do Thy will.*
- *.... Amen."*

The Presentation

- The RS or Crew Chair presents the new Rover to the Crew, saying:
- RS or Crew Chair: *"Fellow Rovers, I present to you, (name), your comrade, whom I have received on your behalf into the Fellowship of Rovers. Welcome them into your Fellowship, aid and speed them on their course."*
- The new Rover is welcomed to the Crew by each Rover present.
- Rover Closing Ceremony now proceeds as normal.

The Presentation of Awards Bars and Challenge Awards

The presentation of the Rover Awards, Bars and Challenge Awards, e.g. the Scoutcraft Award, can be carried out in accordance with the Crew's wishes. Something short just to highlight the Rover's achievement. Ideally this presentation should be given out at a Crew Council or other formal meeting with the Crew in uniform. The award would be given out with a badge certificate. These certificates can be found at your Regional Offices.

The Presentation of a B-P Award

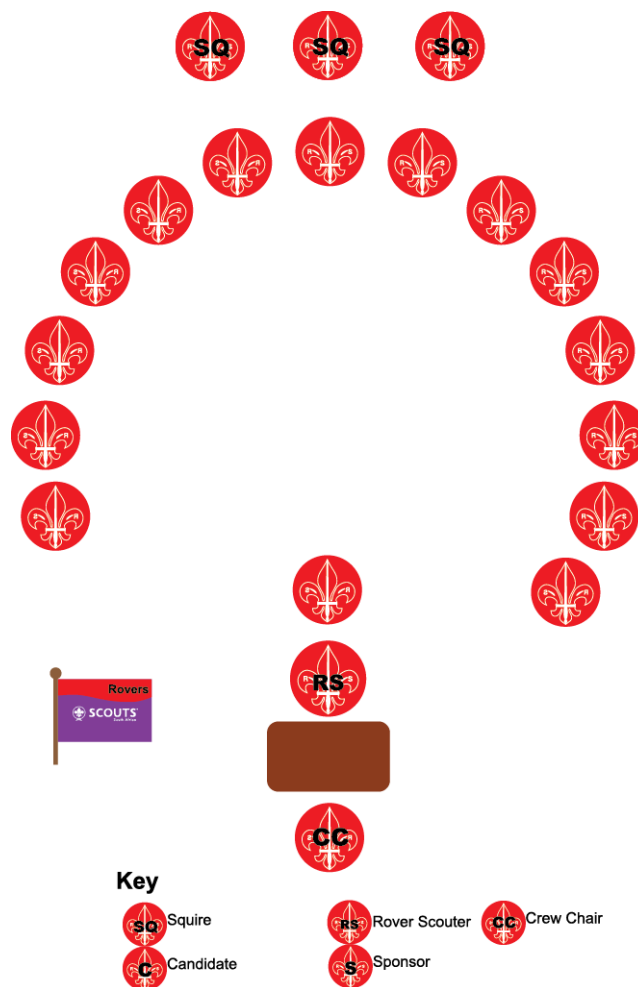
This is a simple ceremony with the Crew drawn in a horseshoe. The RS or the Chair will call the Rover forward and after saying a few appropriate words will fasten the Award itself on the left sleeve of the recipient. The Crew will then applaud.



Wherever possible, the Certificate associated with the B-P Award is presented to the recipient by the Chief Scout personally. Many Regions arrange a special ceremony to which other Crews are invited - this may take the form of a special function or at the Regional AGM.

The End-of-Trail Ceremony

This ceremony is to be held when a Rover leaves the Crew, either reaching the upper age to be a Rover, or if they are moving away.



- RS or Crew Chair: *"Today we mark the end of the Trail for Rover (name). They have been with the Crew for "... years and have reached an age/stage where they have to leave the Crew. Let us now conduct for the 'End-of-the Trail' ceremony for (name)."*
- *"(Name), I ask you now to take the sword* (spear, axe, etc.) like you did for your investiture and hold it in your right hand."*
- *"At your investiture, you were asked to unsheathe the sword* and recite your Scout Promise. That marked the start of your Rover Trail. Now we will do the opposite, and I ask you for the final time to sheathe the sword* for the last time, signifying the End of your Rover Trail. If you wish, you may address the Crew before doing so."*
- Rover will address the Crew if they so wish, then will slowly sheathe the sword.
- Rover: *"As this sheath protects the sword may God protect our Movement, and protect our fellow Rover who has walked the Rover Trail, and will now start a new Trail in life."*
- RS or Crew Chair: *"O (Deity of Choice), watch over Rovers everywhere. Especially those of us gathered here tonight. Watch over us during the hours of darkness: Watch over (name) as we rejoice and celebrate on having (name) been in the Crew but be with them now as they start a new journey. Through His name's sake Amen"*
(Or an appropriate prayer suitable to the religion of the Crew, alternatively the Rover Prayer can be used.)
- RS or Crew Chair: *"Rovers, let us honour (name) as they leave this Den for the last time."*
- Rovers will form two lines towards the doors. Facing inwards, they will make the Scout Sign with their right hand pointing towards the ground.
- The RS or Crew Chair will escort the departing Rover to the door, say final farewells and close the door behind the Rover.
- Rovers will take up the ceremonial circle again. RS or Crew Chair will dismiss the Crew.

It is suggested this ceremony be run in conjunction with either a banquet or any other social event to mark this special occasion of a Rover reaching the upper age for Rovers, or that they are moving away.



Final Note

It is important to remember that these ceremonies serve as a guideline for your Crew and are not set in stone. The ceremonies can be altered to best accommodate the denominations or religious policy represented in your Crew.

The structure and content of the ceremonies can be altered to be unique to your Crew if they are in accordance with the "Ceremonies Policies of SSA" and show due respect to the event and the participants.

Crew Flags

It is hoped that each Crew will have a Crew Flag in terms of the Brand Manual bearing the Crew name as part of its traditional background. Crew Flags not fitting the branding requirements can be used as Ceremonial Flags.



scouter ceremonies

The Adult Leader Investiture Ceremony

The preparation for this ceremony and the general considerations for the conduct of it are the same as for other investitures.

After the Adult Leader has completed the Adult Application for Membership and the application has been accepted, the Adult member may now be invested and wear the uniform. A Group and an Adult member can choose to delay membership until after completing the Stage 1 IAL training, but that training is not a requirement for membership. Once an Adult has been accepted as a member, they should be invested as soon as possible.

This is a Group event under the leadership of the SGL. The preferred option is that the SGL encourages the Scouters - representing each Unit - to be present at the investiture of an Adult and that they participate in the ceremony. Youth members should also attend as observers. Especially those from the Unit of the member to be invested.

Where a Group consists of just a Pack or a Den, a Pack or Den style investiture (the flag is not used) in front of the Cubs or Meerkats would be appropriate. This could be done at the start of a regular meeting. All Adult Members always make the Scout Promise.

Equipment

The Group Flag (if there is one) or the Troop Flag for the investiture of an ATS or TS, or the Crew Flag for an RS or ARS, is held by one of the Scouters. The SGL will have the World Membership badge with a safety pin, the SCOUTS South Africa ribbon, the District and Regional emblems - if any, and the Group Scarf and woggle.

Procedure

- The Group is formed up in a horseshoe formation with the SGL standing in the gap facing the Group. One Scouter stands holding the Group Flag upright on the SGL's left, one pace in front of them. The remainder of the ATs and APSs stand in a line behind the SGL.



- The Recruit to be invested stands with the Scouters behind the SGL. The Group is "at ease".
- The SGL briefly describes the significance of the occasion, then orders:
"GROUP (pause), GROUP ALERT."
"I call (name) forward to be invested as a Scouter in the Group."
- The Recruit will walk forward and stand two paces in front of the SGL. They stand at the "Alert".
- The SGL asks: *"Recruit (their name), do you know what your Honour means?"*
- Recruit (prompted by the SGL if necessary) replies: *"Yes, it means that I can be trusted to be truthful and honest."*
- SGL: *"Do you know the Scout Law?"*
- Recruit: *"Yes."*
- SGL: *"Can I trust you on your Honour to do your best - to do your duty to God (pause), and your Country; To help other people at all times; To obey the Scout Law?"*
- Recruit: *"Yes."*
- The Scouter steps forward and lowers the Group (or Troop / Crew) Flag until its staff is horizontal between the SGL and the Recruit, taking care that the cloth of the flag does not touch the ground. (Where a Group Flag is not available, omit all references to its use).
- The SGL gives the following command to the Group:
"GROUP (pause), GROUP SCOUT SIGN, DEN & PACK – SALUTE."
- All those present who have been invested as Scouts make the Scout Sign, Meerkats and Cubs Salute.
- SGL to Recruit: *"Grasp the Group Flag with your left hand"* (The SGL and the Recruit do so). The SGL then says words to this effect:

"I am now going to ask you to make your Promise which will make you a Scout. The Group Flag represents the Honour of the Group. Many Recruits over the years, when they joined the Group, have promised on their Honour to do their best to live up to their Promise as good Scouts. Once you have made your Promise, you are no longer just a Recruit, you are a Scouter. I am holding the Group Flag with you, for we shall make the Promise together signifying that I, as your Scout Group Leader, will do my utmost to help you to keep this Promise."





Note: If the Adult member has been a Scout or Rover in the past they are asked to renew their Promise and not take their Promise for the first time.

- The SGL then says: *"Repeat after me: On my Honour I promise ...*
(the Recruit repeats each phrase after the SGL)
... that I will do my best ...
... to do my duty to God (pause), and my Country ...
... to help other people at all times ...
... to obey the Scout Law."
- As the Scouter raises the flag between them, and the Group resumes its position of "Alert" (i.e. no Scout Sign), the SGL shakes the Scouter's left hand and says:
"(Name), I trust you, on your Honour, to keep this Promise, you are now a Scouter and a member of the World Wide brotherhood of Scouts. I congratulate you and warmly welcome you as a member of the Group, where I hope you will have fun, adventure and many happy years of Scouting."
- The SGL then pins on the World Membership badge. The SGL or DC - if present - pins on their District and Regional emblems - if any – and explains the meaning of each badge.
- The SGL then shakes hands with the left hand and welcomes the new Scouter to the Group.
- The SGL then orders:
"SCOUTER, ABOUT TURN." (They about turn and face the Group.)
"SCOUTER, SALUTE THE GROUP." (The Scouter does so.)
"GROUP (pause), GROUP SALUTE." (The Group does so.)
- The new Scouter returns to the ranks of the existing Scouters and the ceremony is then complete. The Group can then be dismissed by the SGL.





 Pack Scouter
  Sixer
  Cub Instructor
  Troop Scouter
  Patrol Leader
  Recruit
 Assistant Pack Scouter
 Second
 Scout Group Leader
 Assistant Troop Scouter
 Assistant Patrol Leader
 Rover
 Den Scouter
 Assistant Den Scouter
 Meerkat
 Rover Scouter



The Presentation of Warrants

The granting of a Warrant is a sign of confidence that is being placed in the recipient. A Warrant should, therefore, never be handed out in a casual manner, much less be sent by post. It should be presented with a short but appropriate ceremony.

For Unit Scouters and SGLs the presentation should normally take place in the presence of the Meerkats, Cubs, Scouts or Rovers with whom the Scouter will be dealing; who will thus be aware of their appointment as a Scouter and realise that they bind themselves by the same Promise that they have made. There may, however, be occasions when this is not possible or expedient. In this case the Warrant can be presented at a Scouters' meeting, or at a District Scouters' Council meeting or other function.

All Scouters, including Den and Pack Scouters, make the Scout Promise.

The ceremony should be short and simple; but if properly conducted, it can be impressive. If the presentation takes place at a Troop Meeting the horseshoe formation should be adopted.

A Warrant is always presented by a person who holds a warrant, which means they are responsible for the new Scouter.

If possible, the District Commissioner (DC) should present the Warrant if it is to an SGL or a Scouter in a Group. However, the SGL may present a Warrant to a Unit Scouter.

The presenter of the Warrant will say a few appropriate words, pointing out that the granting of the Warrant is a sign of the confidence placed in the recipient by the Chief Scout. However, this is not the occasion for any lengthy speech. The new Scouter is then called forward. The presenter of the Warrant gives the order "*SCOUT SIGN*". The new Scouter, and all invested members present, then make the Scout Sign. The DC (or other presenter) asks the recipient of the Warrant to re-affirm the Scout Promise, which is an essential part of the ceremony, regardless whether they have made it on some previous occasion.



The DC should lead them in the words phrase by phrase (carefully separating "Duty to God" from "and my Country") and not expecting them, at what may be a moment of considerable nervous tension, to repeat the whole of the wording at once. The DC, unless frequently accustomed to leading the Promise, should have an easily read copy available at which they can, if necessary, glance unobtrusively at any moment of uncertainty.

After the making of the Promise, the DC welcomes the Scouter - if new to the Movement - "to the World-Wide Brotherhood of Scouts", hands them the Warrant in the name of the Chief Scout and wishes them success and happiness. They may then, very briefly take the opportunity, to remind those present of their own Promise, and their responsibilities towards all Scouters. Congratulations of an appropriate nature can conclude the ceremony.

The Presentation of Insignia to Non-Warranted Ranks

The presentation of insignia to Non-Warranted Ranks, such as Pack Helpers, is an 'informal' occasion. However, the opportunity should be taken by the SGL or the DC at perhaps a Group function to emphasise the importance to the Group of Non-Warranted Ranks.

The Presentation of the Wood Badge



The Wood Badge scarf and beads should be presented by a member of the Training Team as soon as the award of the Wood Badge has been approved by the Chair: National Adult Leader Training. It should only be presented when the recipient(s) is in uniform, preferably at a Troop, Pack or Den Meeting with their Meerkats, Cubs, Scouts or

Rovers present. Scouters' Meetings, Annual General Meetings or other Group functions may provide suitable occasions too.

In their preliminary remarks the member of the Training Team should express due appreciation for the effort and hard work that the recipient put into gaining the Wood Badge. At the same time, they should avoid giving the impression that anything exceptional has been achieved. The recipient has reached the degree of training which ideally would be expected of every Scouter.



When the actual presentation of the beads is made, the Training Team member should wear the beads destined for the recipient. They can then remove them from their own neck and hang them around that of the recipient with a few appropriate words. This is a personal touch which may mean a lot to the recipient. Reference needs to be made to the significance and history of the beads and the scarf.

If appropriate for the audience (not in front of Meerkats or Cubs), and the occasion, the text of "Two Tiny Wooden Beads" may then be read out (Annexure 2).

The Training Team member should then welcome the Scouter into full membership of the 1st Gilwell Park Group, by asking them to renew their Promise. In some Scout Regions the parchments are presented annually at the Gilwell Reunion. This is a tradition which is encouraged. In other Scout Regions the parchment is presented at an annual awards ceremony, or at any suitable gathering, with the scarf and beads. Whenever the parchment is presented the text of "Two Tiny Wooden Beads" should also be read out.

The Presentation of Awards for Gallantry, Meritorious Conduct, Merit and Long Service



Whenever possible, all awards for Gallantry, Meritorious Conduct and Merit should be presented to the recipients by the Chief Scout personally or, if this is not feasible, by their nominated representative.

If at all possible the person presenting a Merit award or Order, will have at least the same, or a higher award, which they will be wearing.

The presentation of a Long Service Medal may be made at any time throughout the year by the Regional Commissioner or their nominee.

As a general principle, awards should - whenever possible - be presented on a suitable public occasion in front of those to whom the service, which is being recognised has been rendered, or with whom the recipient has worked in



Scouting. Recognition witnessed by one's colleagues, or youth members is more highly valued than a presentation in front of relative strangers.

Suitable occasions are:

- An Awards function held in February - as near to the Founder's Day as possible.
- The Region's Annual Awards Ceremony.
- Other similar occasions.

In each case, the person presenting the award will say a few words of congratulations and, in the case of Medals of Merit and higher awards, read the citation before handing over the actual award and certificate.

The higher awards for exceptional and distinguished services – "Orders" - (viz. the Order of the Silver Protea; the Bar to the Silver Protea; and the Order of the Silver Springbok), are worn on a ribbon around the neck. The person doing the presentation may wear the Order around their own neck, or it may be worn by the Commissioner - but only if they hold the award, or a higher award, themselves. As part of the presentation they then remove the award from their neck and hang it around that of the recipient, accompanying their action with a few appropriate words.

NOTE: The Order of the Silver Springbok, if not presented by the Chief Scout, must always be presented by a holder of that award.



flags and staves

About Flags

A National Flag is the symbol of a nation and must be treated with respect. It should be flown on proper occasions and in the correct manner. The National Flag is either hoisted rolled-up and broken at the masthead or raised flying free. Because our flag reminds us of our country and what it means to us, we stand to attention at flag break and flag down. We also pay similar respect to flags of other countries.

In our Rover Crews, Scout Troops, Cub Packs and Meerkat Dens we use the Rover, Scout, Cub or Meerkat Flags. These official flags are available from the Scout Shop (<https://shop.scouts.org.za/>).

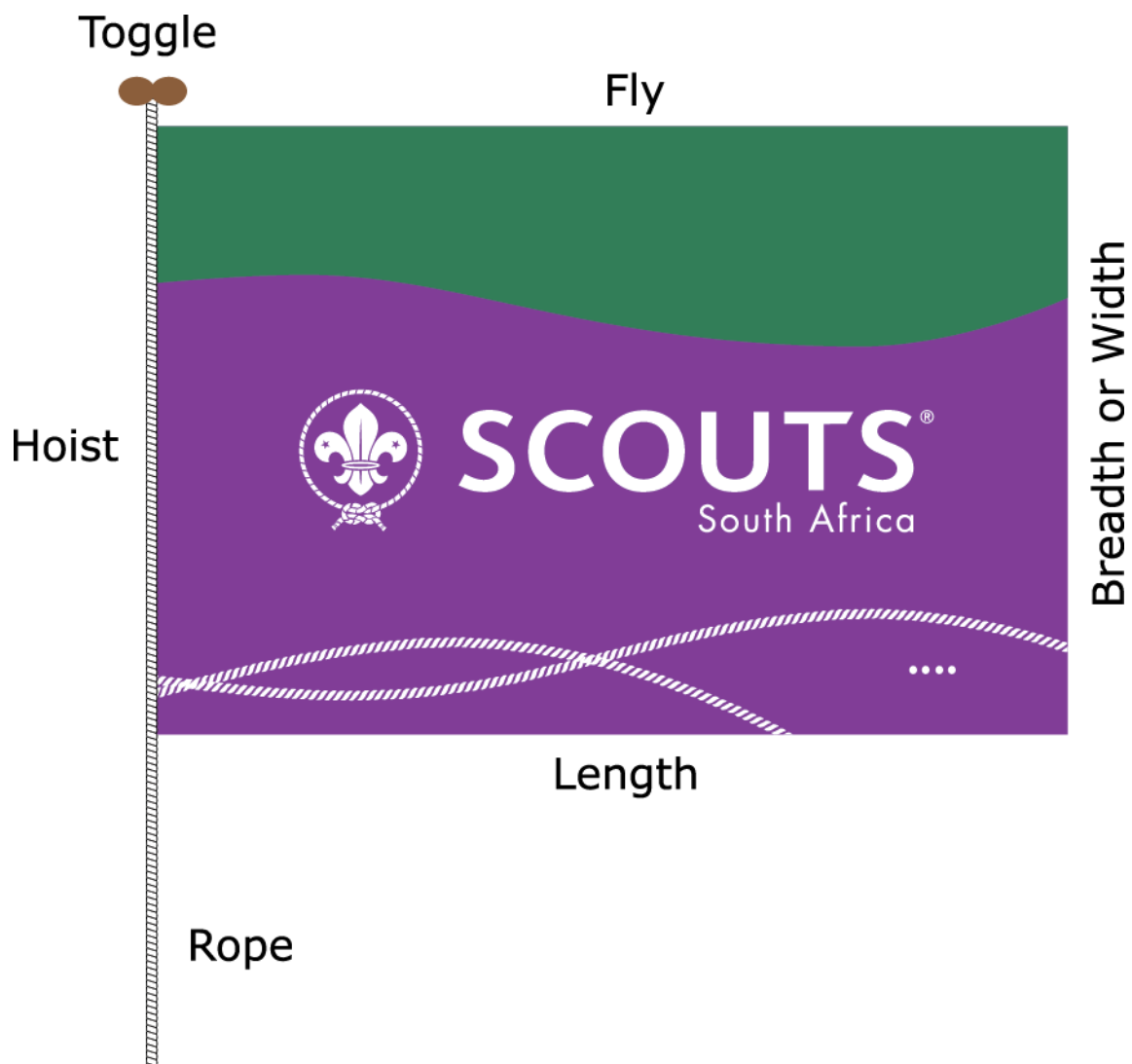
They depict the badges of our Movement, and so remind us of the World-Wide Brotherhood of Scouting and of the Promise which we ourselves have taken. For this reason, we treat them with the same respect as we treat national flags. At the beginning of the meeting we stand at attention ("Alert"), while the flag is "broken" or hoisted, and again at the end of the meeting for flag down. This of course also applies to mornings and evenings in camp.

The correct procedure is that when the flag is broken or when it is hoisted and has reached the top of the flagpole, we always face the flag and, on the order, "*SALUTE*" we all salute. When the flag is lowered, we face the flag, stand to attention, and do not salute.

Parts of the Flag

- Flags have attached to them a short length of rope with a wooden toggle at the top and a loop at the bottom. This enables them to be hoisted on a flagpole or mast. On the flagpole is a rope called a "halyard" which runs through a pulley at the top of the pole. The halyard has a loop into which the toggle slips, and the other end is fastened to the loop in the flag rope by means of a sheet bend.
- You will be shown how to prepare, hoist, break, fly and lower a flag.
- The part of a flag nearest to the pole is called the "hoist". The part away from the pole is called the "fly" (See diagram).





Flags sold at the Scout Shop are of this design. Some other flags have no flag rope. Instead, they have a sleeve which slips over the pole or staff. These flags are not designed for flying from a mast, but for carrying on a march.

Flag Ceremonies

In the Scout Movement the following procedure must be adopted when the National Flag or a Scout Flag is hoisted, broken or lowered.

Flag Etiquette and Usage

The flags which may be carried or flown by SCOUTS South Africa, and the way they are used are described below. In the following notes the term "Scout Flag" includes any of the flags for Den, Pack, Troop and Crew.



- The World Scout Flag and the National Flag may be flown at Regional Training Centres during courses and at suitable National or Regional events with an international flavour such as jamborees, Join-in-Jamborees, JOTA-JOTI, international camps, and similar events.
- Flags are normally flown from sunrise to sunset, usually from 08:00 to 18:00.
- When the World Scout Flag is flown at an event over two or more days, it is customary for it to be flown continuously.
- If the National Flag is used together with Scout Flags, it takes precedence over them. The National Flag and the Scout Flags should be flown from separate poles or masts; or the National Flag may be flown from a masthead and the Scout Flag(s) from the yardarm. If the National Flag and Scout Flags are carried on a march, the National Flag shall lead. When the colours are in line, the National Flag shall be to the observer's left.



Occasions on which the National Flag shall be used:

- By an official contingent from SCOUTS South Africa proceeding overseas.
- At National camps or Regional events at which the State President (or other Head of State) or the Chief Scout of South Africa is present.

When the National Flag is flown from a mast or flagpole, care must be taken to see that it is the right way up. A flag must never be flown upside-down. In the old days this was a sign of distress. Today it is more likely to be a sign of



inefficiency. Sometimes a flag is displayed horizontal, flat against a wall or building. In that case the hoist must be to the observer's left. If the flag is displayed hanging down, the hoist must be uppermost, and the top of the flag must be to the observer's left.

Sometimes the National Flag is flown with other flags, such as school flags, sports club flags, municipal flags, Scout flags or flags with commercial devices. In such a case, it will be the first hoisted and the last lowered. It should be on a taller mast than the other flags and should be on the observer's left or be in the centre of the group. If flags of several nations are flown together, as at an international sports meeting or other gathering, the flags must be of equal size, each flag must be on a separate mast, the masts must be of equal height, and the flag of the host country must be on the observer's left.

A National Flag is never used as a decoration. It is not to be used as a tablecloth at ceremonial or other occasions, nor should it be used to cover a statue or monument that is being unveiled. A damaged or worn-out flag should not be used. If it cannot be repaired, it should be destroyed.

When a flag is flown at half-mast as a sign of mourning, it is first broken at the masthead. The National Flag is hoisted to the masthead and then lowered slowly until it is about its own width from the top. When it is lowered, it is first raised to the masthead and then taken down as usual. In South Africa the National Flag is flown at half-mast only on instruction from the State President's Office.

Flags are either hoisted rolled-up and broken at the masthead or raised flying free. The former method is the more usual and is observed with Scout Flags. Naval custom favours the latter method. In hoisting and lowering a flag, care must be taken to see that it does not touch the ground.



Flag Carrying

When colours are carried, every effort should be made to ensure that this is done correctly and smartly. Colour parties should practice before any such occasion.

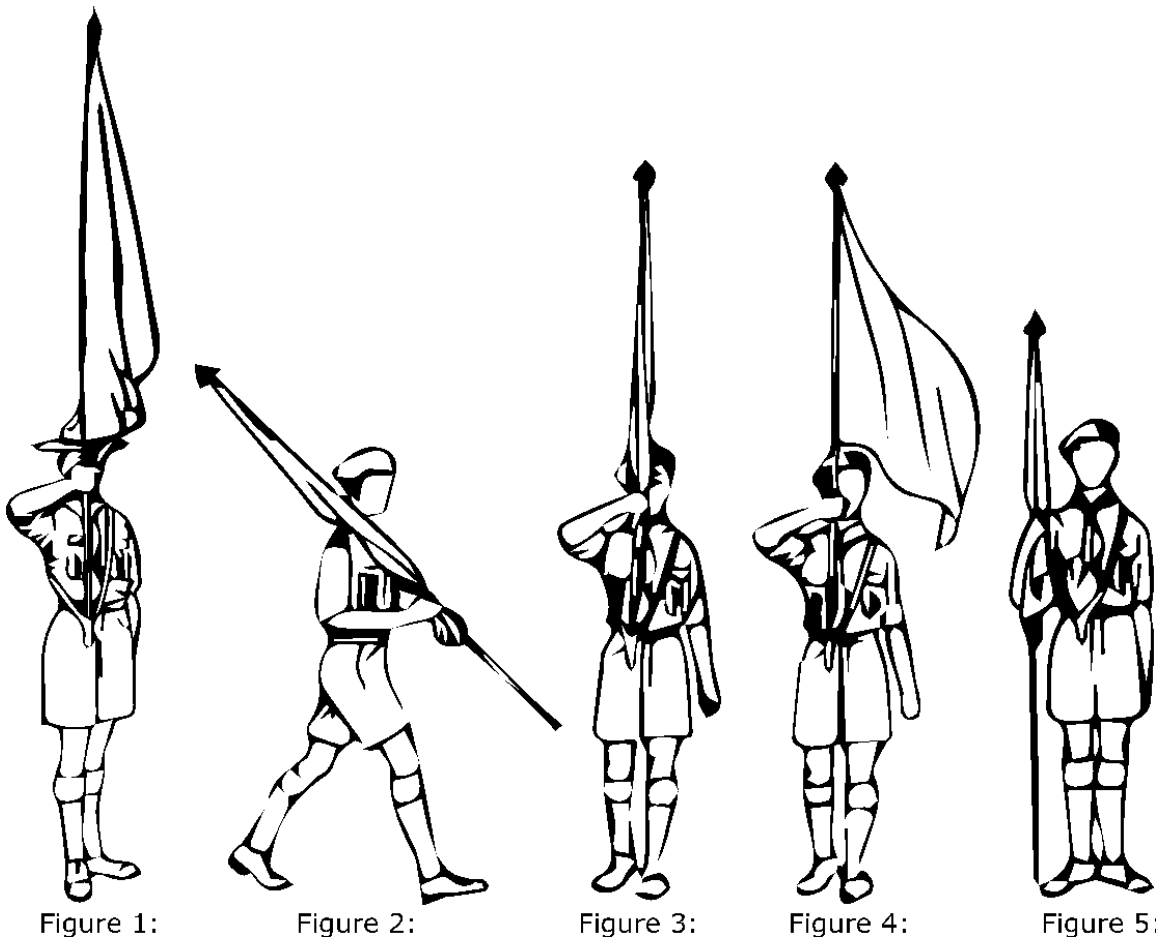


Figure 1:

Figure 2:

Figure 3:

Figure 4:

Figure 5:

At the "Alert" (Figure 1)

The flag is held upright by the Scout with their right hand while at the "Alert".

On the March Slope (Figure 2)

Sloped over the right shoulder, the flag is gathered in the right hand, left arm swinging free. This is the normal method of carrying the flag before or after a formal parade.

Carried- Gathered In (Figure 3)

The pole is perfectly vertical, butt in the carrier held in the right hand. The back of the hand should be facing forwards, level with the mouth. The elbow square and level with the hand so that the forearm and the pole form a right angle (figure 4); left arm swinging free. The 'Carry- Gathered In' is used when marching past



or when specially ordered. The 'Carry' position is tiring and should be used sparingly.

Carrying Flying Free (Figure 4)

Position of hand and arm are as in figure 4, but the flag is not gathered in with the left arm to the side. This is done during a march past.

The 'Carrying-Flying Free' is the salute at the actual moment of passing the saluting point. Carrying-Flying Free: As on the march (figure 4). Flags are never lowered when on the march.

At the "HALT" order (Figure 5)

The flag is held vertically at the right side, butt on the ground gathered in the right hand.

NOTE: The "Order" is the normal position. The 'Carry - Gathered In' or 'Carry - Flying Free' at the halt are on occasions such as inspections or when specially ordered.

When parading with other bodies, common sense should be exercised in departing from these rules.

The World Scout Conference rules include that at international gatherings each nation should conform to its own national practice.

Escorting Flags

A Flag when carried on parade should be escorted by two Scouts who should march on either side of the flag-bearer and slightly to the rear. The National Flag is always carried on the right of the Scout Flag as the procession advances.

It should be noted especially that, except when passing a saluting base, the correct procedure is to carry flags at the slope while on the march.

Dedicated Flags

A dedicated flag is a flag set aside and consecrated by special ceremony and prayer.



Dedicated flags must always be treated with the greatest reverence and must never be moved uncased without an escort. It should be clearly understood that dedicated flags cannot be flown in camp nor used for any purpose and therefore careful consideration of the implications must be given before undertaking the charge of dedicated flags. On the other hand, it is quite usual to have flags 'presented' by a minister at a simple ceremony in church or at a Scouts' Own. This simpler arrangement is recommended.

Presenting Flags in a Place of Worship

Although it is common practice for escorts to accompany flag-bearers inside a consecrated building, this is incorrect. Flag-bearers should move unaccompanied.

If only two flags are to be presented to the minister, i.e. the National Flag and the Scout Flag, it is usual for the bearers to march abreast. On reaching the minister, bearers kneel in unison on the right knee. After their flags have been handed over, both bearers rise together, about turn, and retire to their seats.

When recovering the flags after the service, the two bearers move forward together, the National Flag bearer on the right. Both kneel and receive their flags; and after rising together, both turn about at the halt. The National Flag bearer then takes three paces diagonally forward to their right, halting directly in front of the Scout Flag bearer and then faces the front. The Scout Flag bearer then makes a similar movement to their left so that the two flags are in the correct positions to proceed abreast down the aisle.

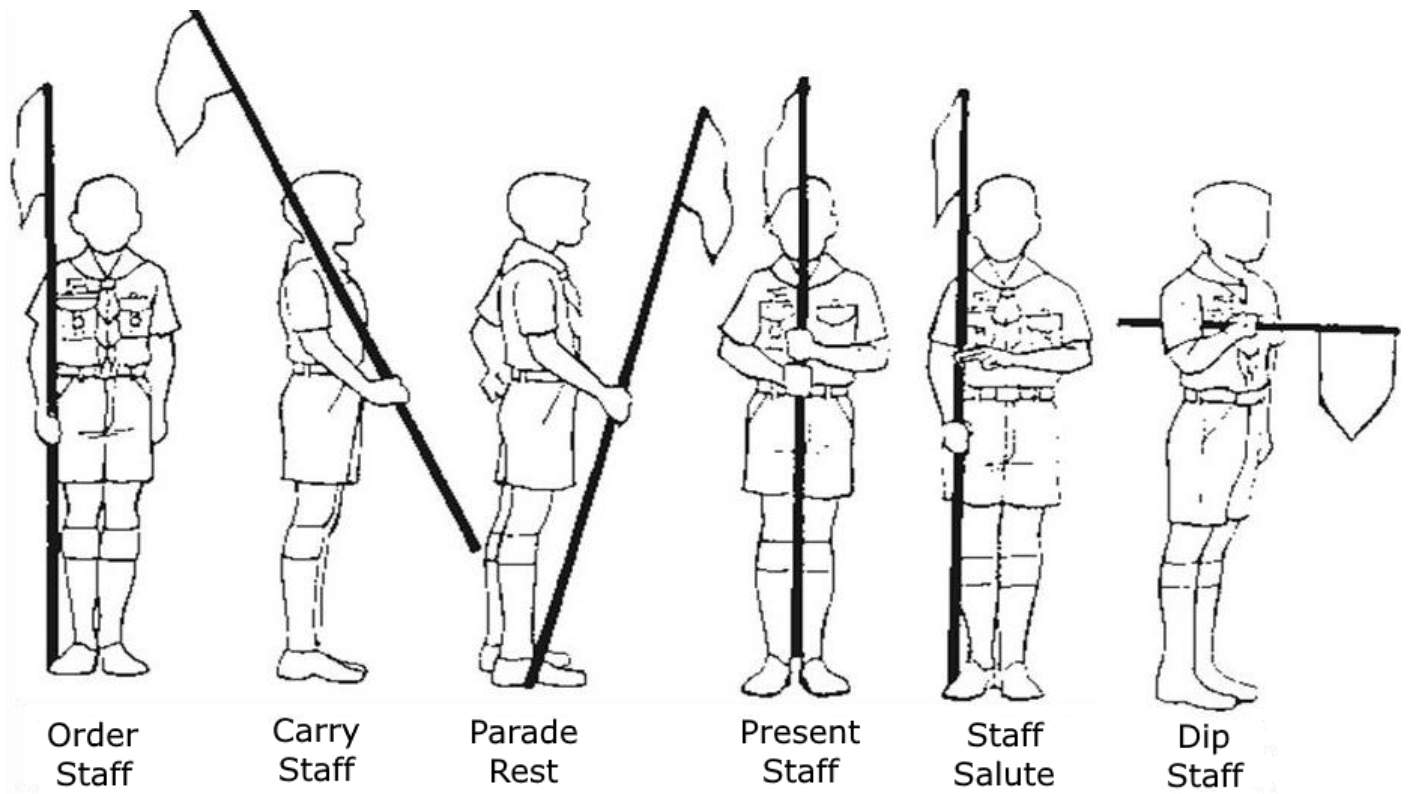
When many flags are presented, it is usual for them to proceed in single file and be recovered in the same order. The first flag should always be the National Flag which can be followed - if desired - by the WOSM Flag, the SCOUTS South Africa Flag and then the various Group Flags.

If the service is run jointly with the Guides, it should be remembered that all National Flags must precede all others, whatever arrangements are made for the order of presentation of other flags.



Scout Staves

The Scout drill with staves is as follows:



annexure 1: the patrol leader's oath

Option 1: Patrol Leader Oath of Office

The TS reads out:

- *"Having been appointed as a Patrol Leader of the (name) Patrol in the (name) Scout Troop, do you solemnly affirm that you will support and uphold the Scout Promise and Law?;*
- *That you will, in friendship, encourage and train those entrusted to you to the best of your abilities;*
- *That you will protect them against wrongdoing in whatever form you behold;*
- *That you will develop them to become responsible members of society and exemplary Scouts;*
- *That you will demand of them, and demonstrate by your own example, the highest standards of personal conduct, honour and service in accordance with the Scout Law and Promise;*
- *That you will undertake to achieve the advancement level of First Class without undue delay, in an endeavour to become an effective Patrol Leader;*
- *That you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties on which you are about to enter, on your honour as a Scout."*

The new PL responds: "I Do".



Option 2: On Appointment of a Patrol Leader

This text is too long to read out, but the PL can be asked to read out the headings and the text can then be given to the new PL.

As a Patrol Leader:

- **I commit myself to play the Scout 'game' wholeheartedly!**

We progress our lives through many different 'games' be it sports, the arts, hobbies, academics, participation in faith groups, civics and so on. I choose 'Scouting' and will attempt to learn Scouting skills to the best of my ability and creativity. I aim to be a 'First Class' Scout. I will share and teach skills, always looking for new angles, depths of knowing and practical skill. My enthusiasm for Scouting will be contagious!

- **I will stand up as a leader and take responsibility in our Scouting community.**

I will do stuff and make it work! As a recognised, invested leader I will stand with the core team that will do anything to make the Troop and Patrols work excellently. I stand up and commit myself to giving, creating, making, bringing positive energy, doing practical tasks that will make us all shine! I will give time to the leadership project.

- **I will love and inspire my people!**

Upholding the Scout Promise and our 'duty to God, I will promote the universal 'rule of compassion', doing to others as I would have done to myself. I will be useful and helpful to others. I will uphold Scout Laws of respect and courteousness, being a brother or sister to other Scouts and a friend to all, I will encourage Scouts to persevere and be courageous. I will promote a sense of 'clean' living by upholding the quality of conversations, joking, use of language and positive spirit amongst us. I will help to create a safe, belonging, happy space for all.



- **I will uphold the Scout Promise and Law, showing my belief in it and demonstrating how to live it out in action.**

I proudly stand with more than 50 million Scouts worldwide who strive to do the same thing and bring about a world of peace and prosperity for all. Above all, when I uphold the Scout Promise and Law, I am a Scout 'Messenger of Peace'!

Closing words by the TS:

Being a leader involves leaving yourself as center of the universe behind! You live to motivate and take people to a better space. You have a vision, you are passionate. Your work will develop your character and life strength. You will discover a surprising life gift of joy and purpose. You choose a road less travelled; you will climb the mountains rather than walk the roads. You have the Honour of being a leader, but you are a servant of the Troop!

May you have the courage to keep walking this way.



annexure 2: two tiny wooden beads

Two Tiny Wooden Beads



Two tiny wooden beads on a leather thong. Doesn't sound like an outstanding badge and mark of distinction, but it is known and respected as such around the globe. It is symbolic of the efforts and interest of one man on behalf of others that created and launched the greatest movement for your people the world has ever known.

It is the mark of people who have demonstrated that they are persons of character and who are devoted to a cause. People who strive for perfection well knowing that even the best is not enough. People who hold the welfare of others before self. Scouters who live up to all that the name implies. Awarded to Scouters on the basis of what they **think** and **are** more than what they **know**. They must demonstrate that they have the 'know how' too. Good intentions count for little until by the application of ability and determination they produce results that count. Striving for perfection in themselves that they might train others better. To this end exists the **Wood Badge**.

It is doubtful though that it ever crossed the mind of Robert Baden Powell that his efforts on Brownsea Island would grow to influence the youth of the world and that, in the days ahead, thousands upon thousands of men and women would carry his efforts forward to an ever-increasing number of youth.

Who knows but that this effort, this crusade, may flourish to the end. That two tiny beads on a leather thong may yet become the symbol of a succeeding effort to bring about a World Brotherhood of Man under a Fatherhood of God. To that end may Wood Badge serve, and her people never falter or fail. Two tiny wooden beads on a leather thong. They could symbolize the hope of the world.

It's up to us.

